
UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520-7250

Lisa -

The enclosed might fit into The
First Lady's thinking about children -
+ certainly should be part of 1996
planning.

Best + see you soon

Vim



United States Department of State

*Under Secretary of State
for Global Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520-7250

May 17, 1995

Dear Leon:

I am convinced that the Republicans are going to try to use drug abuse as an issue for attacking Democrats in 1996. Following are a number of thoughts and suggestions that might be useful:

- The polling data on the issue suggest that it is ripe;
- The President has not been especially visible or active on this issue;
- Republican budgets have strongly supported international narcotics interdiction efforts, signalling their interest to focus on this issue.

The White House should move rapidly to again take the initiative on the crime issue and domestic and foreign narcotics actions. A number of first steps can be taken:

1. Immediately call together a political strategy team from the White House, ONDCP, Justice, State and the campaign.
2. Outline a strategy for the next year:
 - Jim Burke (retired President of Johnson and Johnson and Chairman of the Partnership for a Drug Free America) has one set of ideas (Attachment A);
 - The demand side figures among children are very worrisome (Attachment B). Why not work with professional sports and ask every professional athlete to visit his/her elementary school and junior high school?;

Mr. Leon Panetta,
Chief of Staff,
The White House,
First Floor, West Wing,
Washington, D.C. 20500.

- The Hollywood and media community continue to offer support;
 - The Advertising Council has made children their primary focus - this can include drugs;
 - The Mayors are a natural constituency, led by Mayor Campbell of Atlanta and his impressive agenda of "American Cities Against Drugs," (Atlanta Resolution signed by scores of mayors, Attachment C).
3. Put the President out front on this issue right away; it is a winning issue and requires decentralized efforts, while proving government can work. Polls suggest that Americans believe the President should be more involved (Attachment D).

The U.S. has made impressive progress over the last decade, but signs of lessening urgency and weakening resolve are both troubling and politically dangerous.

I hope this is helpful. Let me know how I might help to follow-up.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tim", with a large, sweeping flourish above the letters.

Timothy E. Wirth

Attachments:

- A - Recommendation for Bi-Partisan, Private Sector Initiative to Reduce the Demand for Illicit Drugs
- B - Bad News: Attitude and Usage Progress is Reversing Among Children
- C - The Atlanta Resolution
- D - Poll Statics

Recommendation for Bi-Partisan, Private Sector Initiative to

Reduce the Demand for Illicit Drugs

from James Burke, Chairman
Partnership for a Drug-Free America

The Problem - The erosion of anti-drug attitudes with the consequence of increasing drug usage among our children.

The Solution - Strong bi-partisan leadership to reach all key constituencies in society in order to reaffirm the importance of zero tolerance of drug use among our children.

This recommends that the President schedule a well publicized speech to the nation on the drug problem in America as soon as possible. In attendance could be Speaker Gingrich, Senator Dole, Lee Brown and William Bennett.

The purpose of this event would be to "showcase" three important messages:

First - that as a country we have made enormous progress on the drug issue in terms of reducing the number of users from 24 million to 12 million or by 50% over the past 8 years! This progress was accomplished on a bi-partisan basis ... and many elements of the private and public sectors have been involved. The nation's children have been heroic in this regard... and this is especially important because almost 90% of current drug users started in their teens.

The 3,000 community coalitions should be recognized as well for their extraordinary efforts and examples of success, e.g. The Miami Story might be highlighted. The President would emphasize how important the private sector is as well as federal, state and local governments to this issue.

Second - to remind the country that we still have an enormous problem because of the "epidemic" of drug usage beginning in the '60's and peaking in the early '80's (to date almost 80 million "triers") we have created a large pool of addicts many of them highly disordered.. The results are now embedded in every major social issue that the nation is concerned about ... crime...violence...AIDS...healthcare costs...teenage pregnancy...the homeless, etc. This country will spend a long time and a good deal of our wealth in cleaning up the results of this period of massive experimentation with drugs (an estimated 70% of the "baby boomer" generation have tried illegal drugs).

Furthermore, we see a re-emergence of the trends of the '70's in a sharp increase in the trial of illegal drugs particularly among our youngest children (8th graders who are on the average 13 years old!) These trends are clearly due to a weakening of anti-drug attitudes by our children which can and must be reversed on a bi-partisan basis ... **and** everyone must be involved.

Third - to announce a bi-partisan approach to getting "back on track" in continuing to reduce the trial of illegal drugs by our children. The President would announce the establishment of a bi-partisan commission (or advisory council) with blue ribbon representatives from all key segments of society that impact on the problem, to be chaired by Bill Bennett.

The advisory committee will be directed to (working with Lee Brown and ONDCP) present to the President in 60 days, a series of recommendations to the President and the Congress as to what initiatives should be taken by the private and public sectors^{*} necessary to achieve and maintain a goal of less than 3% of the public as "regular" or past-month drug users (as defined by SAMHSA Household Survey). This would be a reduction of approximately 50% from the current national estimates of approximately 6% of the public who are "regular" users. If this could be accomplished, the country will have reduced the number of regular drug users first from approximately 24 million to 12 million, and now from 12 million to 6 million. Progress against this new goal would be reviewed with the public on an annual basis with a target date of the year 2000 or over the next 3 1/2 years.

→ Goal orientation is Prevention - * could eliminate - But school programs - as well as

I believe this to be achievable based on the carefully tracked experience in Miami, Florida where they have achieved a similar goal in less than two years.

As a part of this plan the federal government would not only track progress nationally, but in key drug markets like New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Denver, Washington D.C., and Miami. (Other cities might wish to establish their own goals and track progress using the same statistical methodologies.)

Summary - This would be a national commitment upon the part of the country to work toward a drug free America. Everyone would be asked to play a part and everyone could take satisfaction in the outcome.

BAD NEWS

Attitude and usage
progress is reversing
among children

Of current adult drug users ---

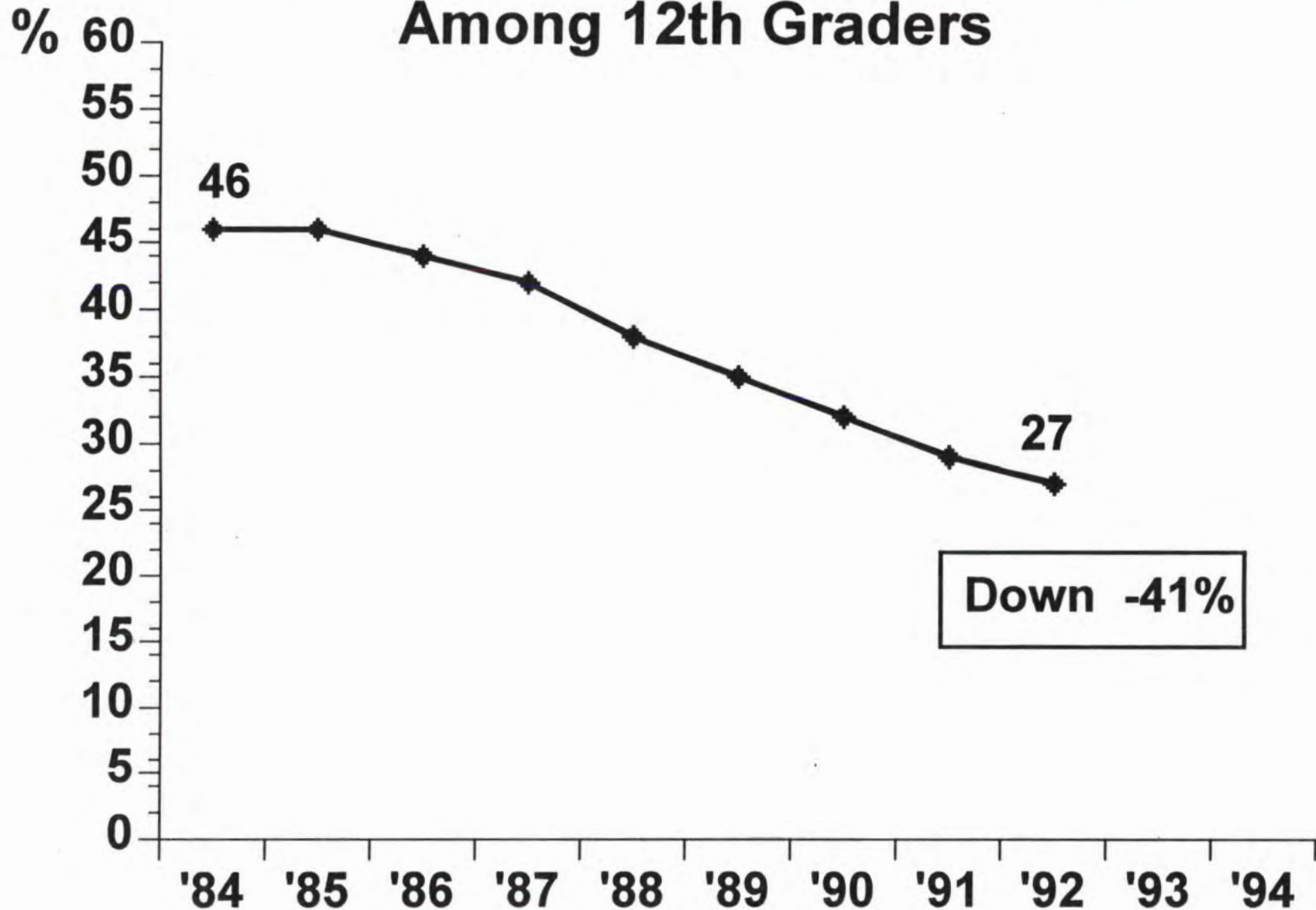
**9 out of 10 started using as
teenagers**

**1 out of 2 started before 16th
birthday**

Source: SAMHSA Household Survey

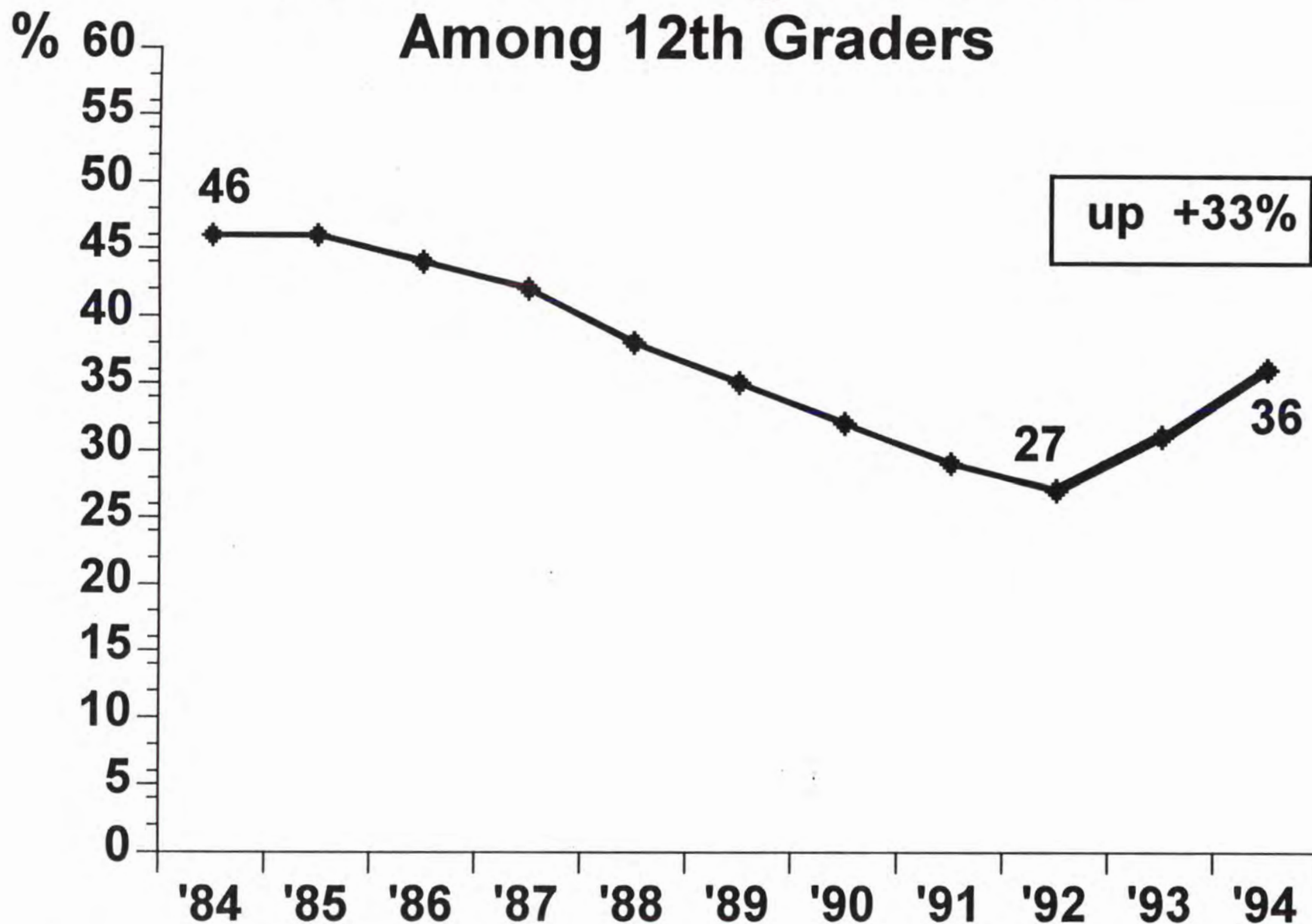
Our children and their attitudes

Annual Illicit Drug Use Trends Among 12th Graders



Source: Monitoring the Future Study

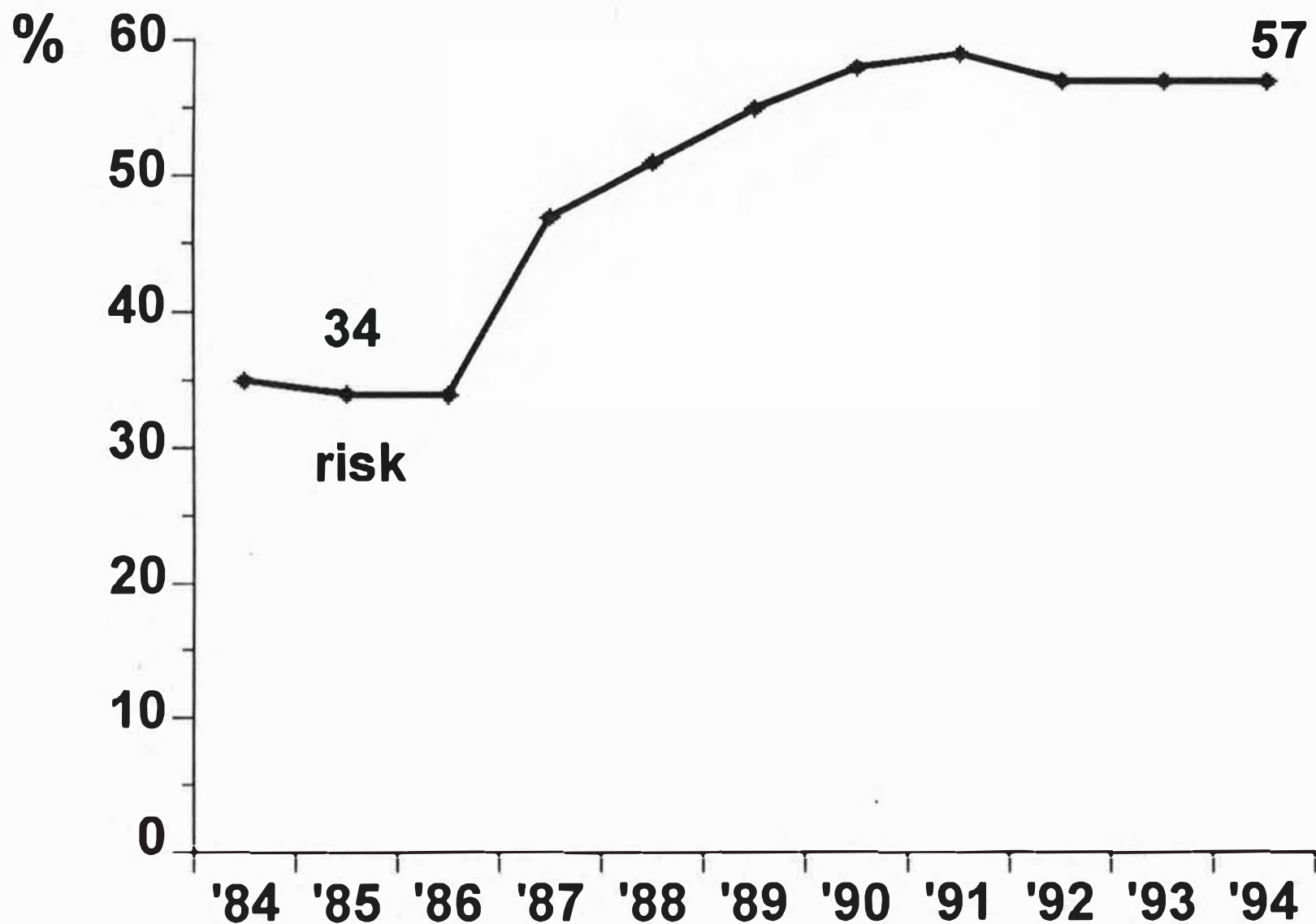
Annual Illicit Drug Use Trends Among 12th Graders



Source: Monitoring the Future Study

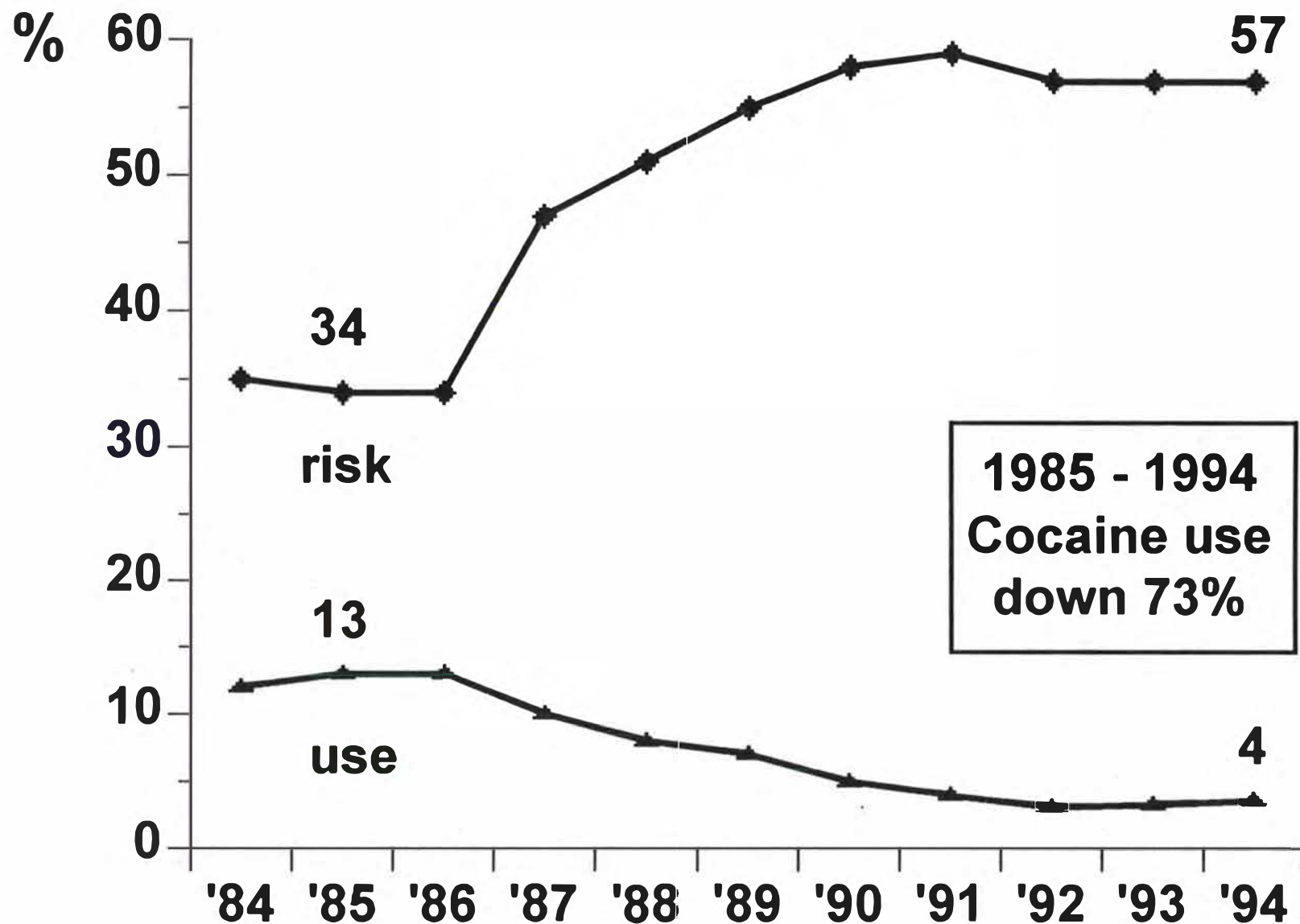
**Because our kids view
illegal drugs as
less dangerous
and more acceptable**

Cocaine: Perception of Risk vs. Use



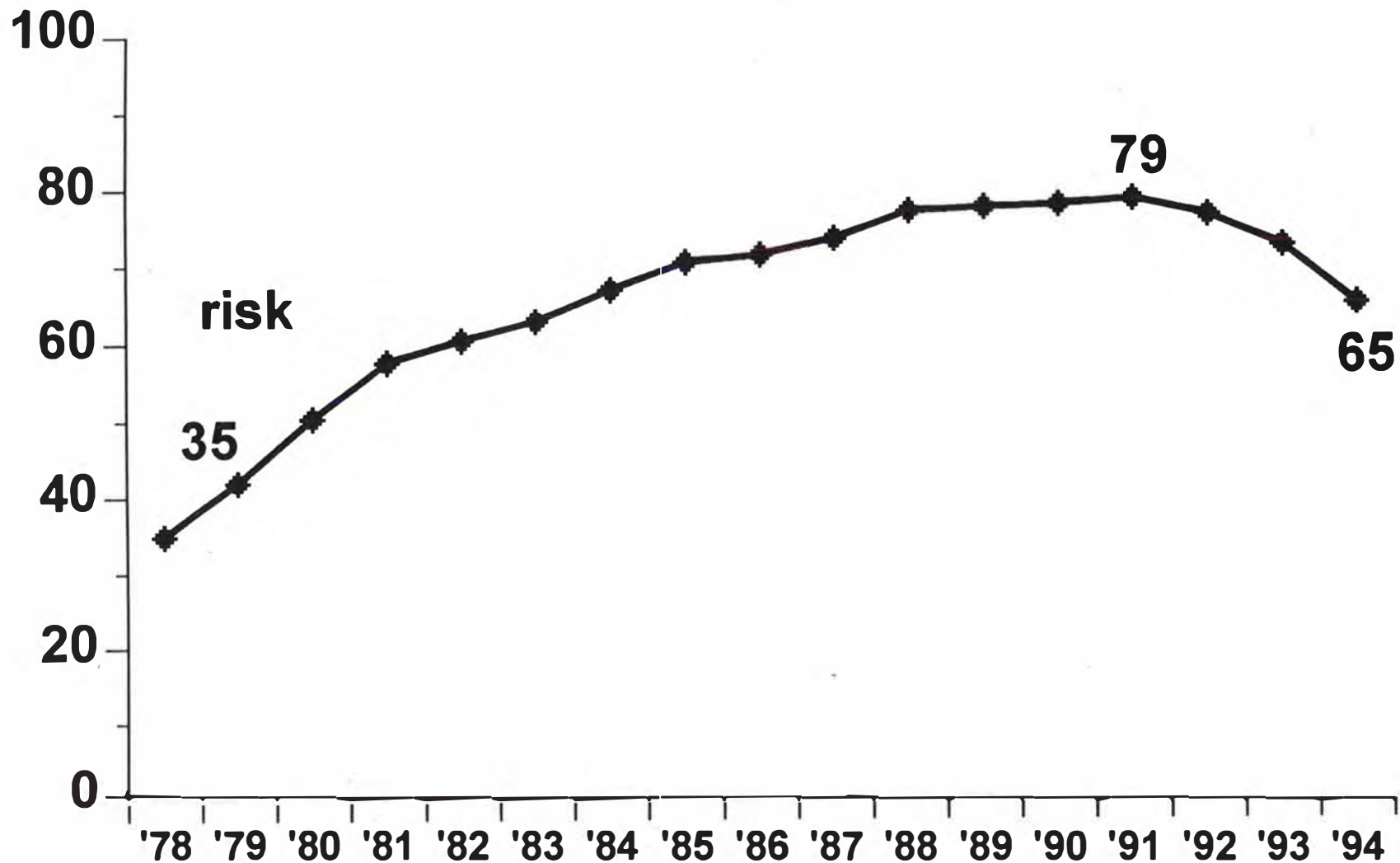
Source: Monitoring the Future Study
12th graders - use in past year

Cocaine: Perception of Risk vs. Use



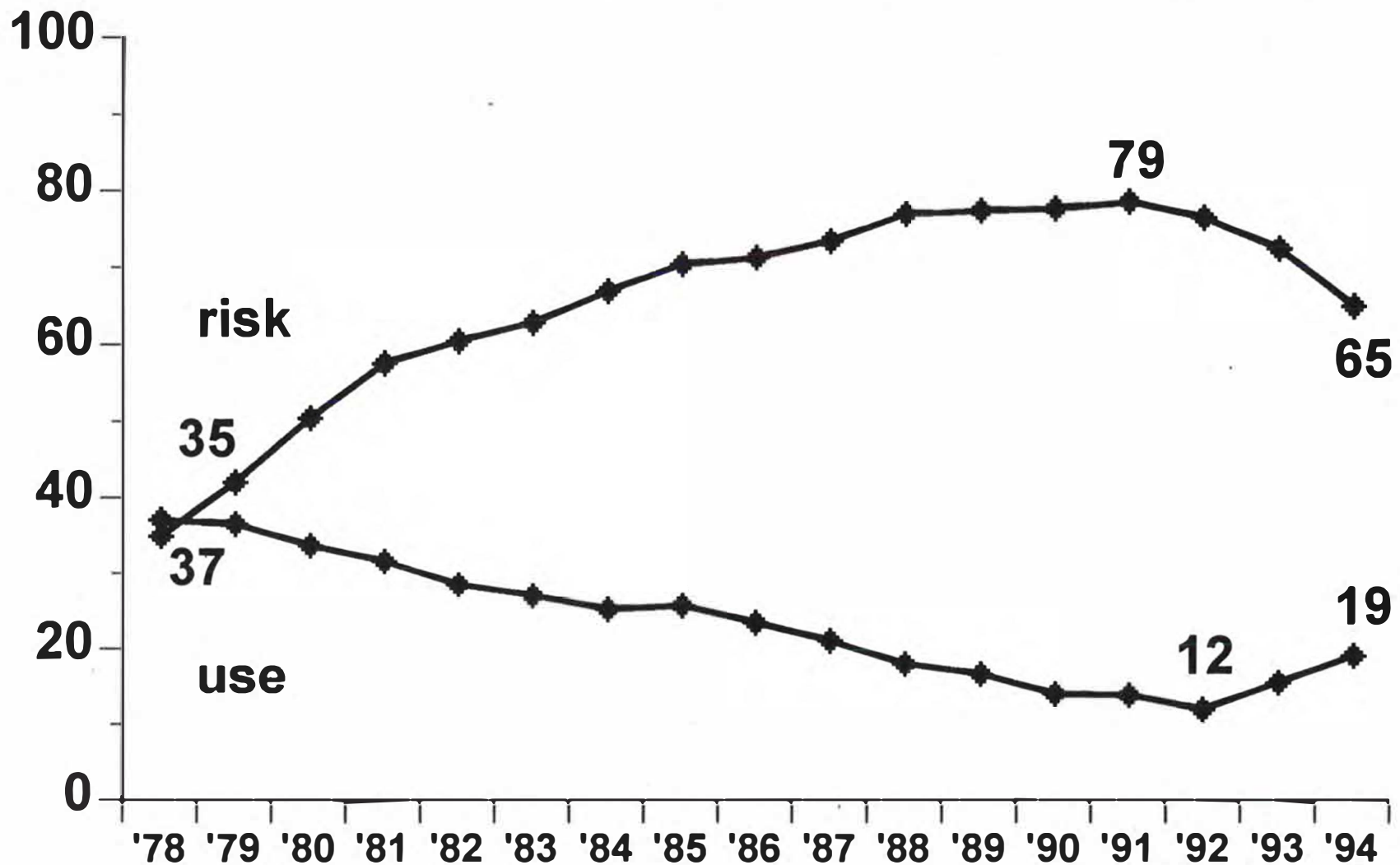
Source: Monitoring the Future Study
12th graders - use in past year

Marijuana Perception of Risk vs. Use



Source: Monitoring the Future
12th graders, past month use

Marijuana Perception of Risk vs. Use



Source: Monitoring the Future
12th graders, past month use

Marijuana Trends Among 8th Graders

	<u>1992 (%)</u>	<u>1994 (%)</u>
<u>Attitudes</u>		
Risk	40	31
Disapproval	82	72
 Use	 7	 13

Source: Monitoring the Future Study
Use in past year

THE ATLANTA RESOLUTION

by American Cities Against Drugs

We, the Mayors of the United States of America, believe that drug abuse is one of the most critical problems facing our cities, and that it is inextricably linked to crime and violence. Cutting across all cultural, racial and economic lines, illicit drugs impair millions of Americans. Drug use and addiction contribute to the breakdown of our families, the abuse of adults and children, the spread of HIV/AIDS, school dropouts and the declining quality of education, homelessness, urban decay, high health care costs, and low economic productivity that compromises our ability to compete in the global marketplace. We must reduce the number of people who use drugs and the number of people with the disease of addiction to significantly improve the most pressing domestic issues we face. **Drug use is a preventable behavior and drug addiction is a treatable disease.**

1. **We, the nation's mayors, reject all proposals to legalize illicit drugs. This is not the answer to the drug problem in our cities.** We reject legalization, and other simplistic forms such as decriminalization, because it is morally reprehensible to consider an action that would a) simultaneously erode our children's anti-drug attitudes of risk and social disapproval and b) make harmful and addictive drugs far more accessible to far more people. We support the medical use of any drug that research proves is safe and effective under guidelines established by the Food and Drug Administration. While we support attempts to reduce harm, we believe that the way to decrease such problems is to prevent drug use from starting and to help those who are already in trouble with drugs.
2. **Prevention works: We have achieved real progress in decreasing drug use and in understanding what works.** Since 1979, dramatic increases in public attitudes of perceived risk and social disapproval toward illicit drugs produced a decline of nearly 50 percent in the number of new triers and non-addicted users through all segments of the population. Throughout the nation, drug prevention efforts came together at the community level—in families, schools, the media, law enforcement, youth groups and workplaces—to establish nonuse as the behavioral standard and social norm. This progress in prevention has also significantly reduced the number of people who would have become addicted.
3. **However, diminishing resources and public focus now threaten future success.** The gains so preciously earned in anti-drug attitudes and declining use are now threatened. Since the early 1990s there has been decreased attention to the drug issue and increased pro-drug and pro-legalization publicity. This has contributed to **a reversal in the attitudes of perceived risk and social disapproval that distinguish nonusers from users, and significant increases in the number of young people using illicit drugs.** Finally, and despite increasing evidence of the cost-effectiveness of drug treatment, we have made little progress in reducing the number of people already addicted. This reflects a current system that can treat only one-fifth of the estimated million people in trouble with drugs.
4. **We must provide significantly greater resources and leadership—from governmental, corporate and nonprofit sectors at national, state and local levels—for the demand reduction efforts of prevention, intervention, treatment and research.** Effective drug policy requires investment in both supply and demand reduction, but our nation is not providing enough funding for prevention or treatment. These are proven, cost-effective solutions for reducing both drug use and addiction and their impact on other critical domestic problems. Initial drug use is a matter of choice, and with sufficient resources, we can influence that choice positively. When addiction overtakes choice, we can treat addiction for those who require it. Our focus must combine efforts to reduce both the number of people who use and the number of people who are addicted to illicit drugs.

- a) **Preventing drug use by young people, and by all who influence them, must be the cornerstone of national, state and local drug strategies and resources if we are to build safe and healthy families and communities.** We must reestablish and affirm the individual choice to remain drug-free. We must consistently reinforce the message that drug use is harmful and unacceptable. This message is vital to preventing drug use and reducing drug use before it becomes addiction. We must effectively influence the decisions our young people make about illicit drugs by providing drug education at home and in school and by involving local law enforcement officers and judges, the faith community, health care professionals, the media, employers, and other community resources. Comprehensive community prevention programs significantly reduce adolescent drug use. We support the recently created National Prevention League, designed to coordinate prevention efforts and to emphasize the need for prevention as the first priority in reducing substance abuse.
- b) **We must make treatment more available, more effective and more accessible if we are to reduce the impact of drugs in our cities.** Treatment is critical to reducing the social pathology conveyed by those already addicted to drugs. Most acute is the lack of treatment for those who are least able to function or whose drug involvement has profound implications for themselves, their families and society at large. People in the criminal justice system, pregnant women and women with children, the homeless, and those infected with HIV/AIDS face intolerable shortages of treatment slots. Early intervention in the drug abuse process, aimed especially at adolescents but including adults as well, decreases harm and increases rehabilitation.
- c) **Law enforcement must remain a strong component of, and be better linked to, demand reduction efforts.** On the national, state and especially the local level, law enforcement and the judicial system are critical to the success of preventing and treating drug abuse. We need to increase cooperation among law enforcement agencies and between law enforcement and prevention and treatment programs within the community.
- d) **Research is critical to understanding, replicating and improving the effectiveness and cost efficiency of demand reduction efforts.** Research, not ideology, must provide the foundation for drug policies and practices. More research is needed to improve our understanding of the ways drugs affect the brain and change behavior, of the reasons for reversing drug attitude and use trends, of the importance of community-based prevention programs, and of why particular treatment approaches are more successful than others.
- e) **Worldwide cooperation in reducing illicit drug abuse will not only help the international community, but also reduce the flow of drugs into our cities.** The spread of illicit drugs throughout Europe and other parts of the world imperils our ability to reduce drug abuse in our cities. We support European Cities Against Drugs, which organized last year to fight the legalization movement abroad. Today, we announce the formation of American Cities Against Drugs to support our sister organization in Europe and similar organizations that may form throughout the world.

We believe that reducing drug abuse is essential to the most important things all Americans care about: our children and families, our safety, our neighborhoods and communities, our health, our economy, our freedom to grow and prosper and our obligation as citizens to help each other build healthy families and communities. We must maintain our public will. We must elicit leadership from all segments of society, especially from individuals and communities. We must recognize that each of us has a role to play in the solution and all of us have a stake in the outcome. Drug abuse is a preventable behavior and drug addiction is a treatable disease. **We, the Mayors of the United States of America, commit ourselves to reducing drug abuse by mobilizing our citizens and concentrating our resources to prevent this behavior and treat this disease.**

Attachment D

1) The drug problem is still a pressing concern to most Americans.

o 77% say they are extremely or very concerned about it, with 45% saying they are **extremely** concerned. Fewer than one-in-ten adults (9%) is not at all concerned about the problem.

o More than half are extremely or very concerned about marijuana (56%) and 31% are **extremely** concerned.

	Concerned:	
	<u>Ext/Very</u>	<u>Ext</u>
Drug Problem	77%	45%
Marijuana	56%	31%

o Most Americans are concerned about the following problems, especially crime in the streets:

	Concerned:	
	<u>Ext/Very</u>	<u>Ext</u>
Crime in the Streets	84%	41%
High Health Care Costs	80%	38%
Declining Quality-Education	79%	39%
Children's Lack...Security	71%	31%
Economic Problems...	69%	27%
Safety of Family in...Home	66%	30%
Loss of Carefree Childhood...	61%	26%

o Further, they understand that the drug problem contributes significantly to the crime problem, to the lack of safety of their families, and other problems facing the country:

	Contributes:	
	<u>Greatly/Somewhat</u>	<u>Greatly</u>
Crime in the Streets	95%	82%
Safety of Family in...Home	83%	54%
Children's Lack...Security	85%	50%
Loss of Carefree Childhood	83%	49%
High Health Care Costs	81%	47%
Declining Quality-Education	79%	45%
Economic Problems...	81%	42%

2) The public believes that the problem of illegal drug usage in America is getting worse; i.e. that more Americans are using illegal drugs than before.

o The majority of Americans (69%) believe the problem is worse than it was five years ago. Only 6% think the situation has improved since then.

3) The drug problem is personally relevant to Americans, many of whom are involved with the issue and willing to take action themselves to fight drugs in their community.

o Some are already personally involved. One-in-five adults (21%) reporting that someone in their family is actively involved in volunteer work with an anti-drug program.

o 56% are personally willing to spend five hours a week in volunteer efforts to stop the sale and use of drugs in their community.

o 53% say they would donate \$20 to a community-wide effort to stop the use of illegal drugs.

o A substantial number of adults say they are willing to take the following actions:

	Willing to:	
	<u>Ext/Very Likely</u>	<u>Ext Likely</u>
Write a letter to congressperson	56%	25%
Volunteer hours helping	49%	18%
Pay more taxes	30%	10%

4) Americans want presidential leadership on the drug issue.

- o Americans believe the President should be extremely or very involved (91%) in providing leadership on the drug issue; half (50% of adults) say he should be extremely involved.

- o However, most Americans (66%) believe President Clinton is only a little or not at all involved with the problem of illegal drug usage in America. Only one-in-four (25%) think he's extremely or very involved in the issue now.

- o More than half (53%) believe he should take a stronger stand on the issue.

- o One-in-two Americans polled (50%) think the President would be highly or very credible in fighting the problem of illegal drug usage, with 22% saying he'd be highly credible.

- o Importantly, though the sample represented both Democrats and Republicans pretty evenly, the majority of adults polled (79%) believe the drug issue should not be politicized.



PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE AMERICA

The overwhelming majority of Americans continue to be very concerned about the drug issue. They see it as negatively impacting all of the social problems they are concerned about, including their concerns about the economy.

They are virtually unanimous that the President should be very involved on several fronts: from providing leadership to allocating more money for treatment.

However, while they recognize the president spoke to the country on the drug issue, most people believe he is now only a little involved in the problem if at all.

(Furthermore, 81% of Americans feel this is a non-partisan issue that cannot be solved by either party alone. This is true regardless of which party affiliation the respondent belonged to.)

CONCERN ABOUT DRUG ISSUE

	<u>Overall</u> %	<u>Quality</u> <u>Education</u> %	<u>Rising</u> <u>Healthcare</u> <u>Costs</u> %	<u>Country's</u> <u>Economic</u> <u>Problems</u> %	<u>Safety</u> <u>Of My</u> <u>Family</u> %
Extremely/Very Concerned	84	86	84	81	72
Extremely	49	47	46	41	40
Somewhat	14	10	13	15	19
Not At All/Don't Know	3	4	4	4	9

3/21-22/92

DESIRED INVOLVEMENT OF PRESIDENT

	<u>TOTAL</u> %
Should be Extremely/Very involved	90
Extremely	47

WOULD LIKE HIM TO:

take a stronger stand	55
support more treatment	45
allocate more money to issue	38
help us understand progress made	37
encourage candidates to keep it non-political	29

CURRENT INVOLVEMENT OF PRESIDENT

	<u>TOTAL</u> %
Recall President Spoke to country on issue	69

TODAY INVOLVED:

Very Involved	24
A Little Involved	54
Not At All	16
Don't Know	6

17

24th > OB Express →

31st > Breast Cancer



~~7th~~
~~8th~~

NEA / NEH

what we've done

craft

< sculpture garden > pull what

< re-performance - >

< showcase American art >

A+H

✓ on
date 7
Museum

14th

Mexico state dinner
preparations - fr

looked at the flowers -
< buffet dinner >

- children doing with

< 20th wedding anniversaries >

Decorating the White House

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF SPEECHWRITING

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NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 5

COMMENTS: I'll call you from home shortly.

WARNING

Unauthorized use of these materials is subject to federal prosecution

perme it to write -
wonder what do column in this

A recurring theme in Mrs. Clinton's mail is the inability of senior citizens on fixed income to afford prescription drugs. A typical retired couple may receive a \$1000 per month from Social Security and find themselves faced with \$200-\$300 worth of necessary medicines. They have only medicare. This couple may often have to choose between food or medicines. We have had cases where one person in the marriage does without medication to provide for their spouse.

We can refer the writers to the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) and ask that these people be made aware of the Prescription Indigent Drug Program. In especially urgent cases AL may call the individual's physician directly to offer the information. Most physicians, even those who provide care for a significant number of patients receiving medical assistance are unaware of this program and are grateful for the information.

The Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association has created a directory of 63 companies who will provide drugs to physicians whose patients cannot afford them. Some drugs are not available and there are restrictions. This resource has been invaluable for us to provide help on behalf of Mrs. Clinton to some of the neediest seniors and others.

His - HRC wants
to do column
on this. Are
we still doing
volunteers?

Pam

FOCUS

THE BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE • JULY 2, 1995

HEALTH CARE

Braking the OB Express

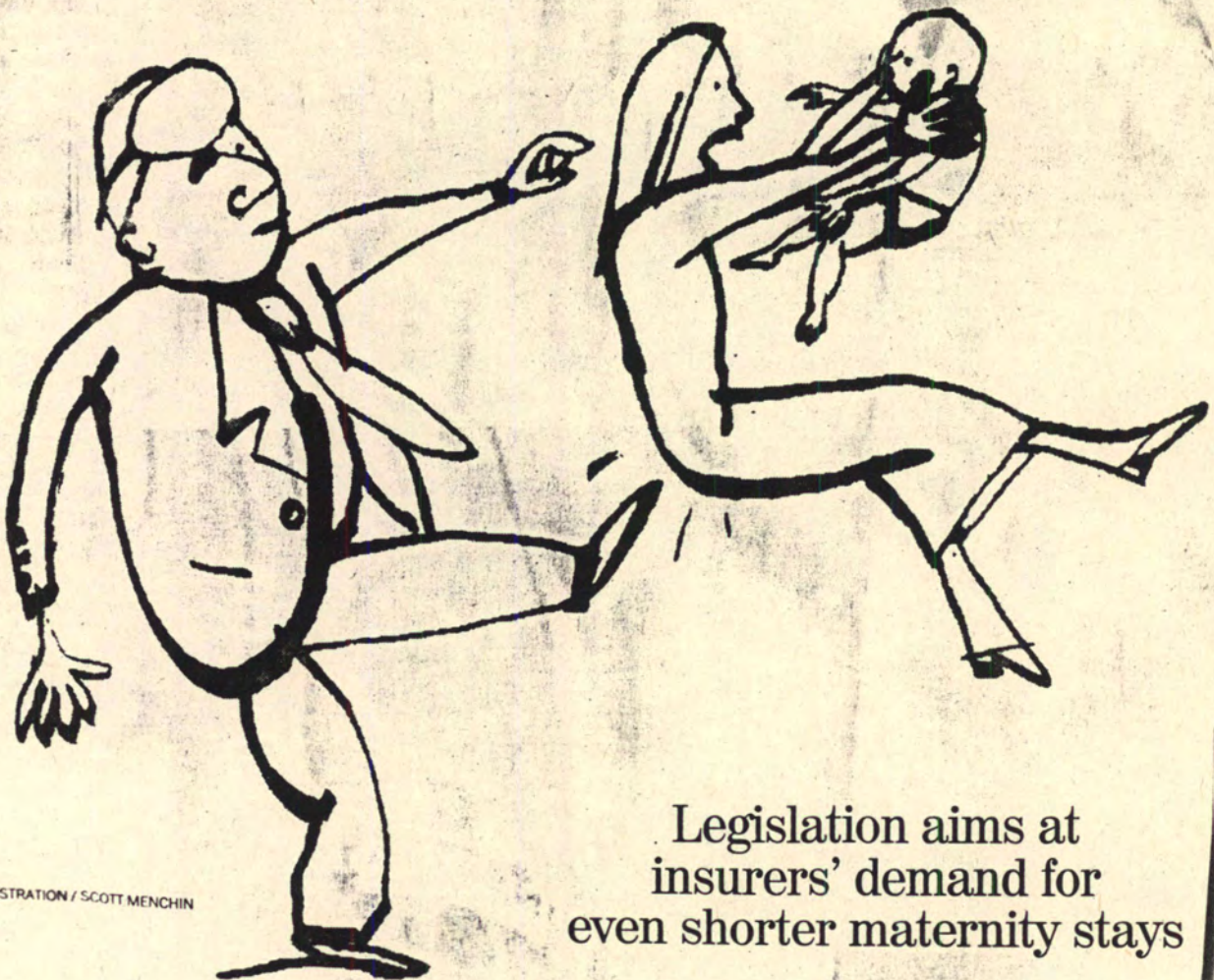


ILLUSTRATION / SCOTT MENCHIN

Legislation aims at
insurers' demand for
even shorter maternity stays

BY SUZANNE GORDON

The quintessential women's health issue - childbirth - is quickly becoming the rallying point for one of the toughest challenges yet to insurance industry control over patient care.

New mothers, tired of being rushed out of hospitals with their newborns as soon as 12 hours after giving birth, have joined health activists, nurses and doctors in demanding that insurers end the practice.

They say that "drive-through delivery" and the "OB Express" - imposed by insurers in the name of cost-cutting - must stop. In recent days and weeks, their efforts have begun paying off on several fronts:

New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman signed into law Wednesday a bill allowing new

mothers to stay in the hospital for 48 hours after a normal delivery, double the previously allowed time. And, in this era of managed care, a nearly revolutionary provision allows women and their doctors to determine when a longer than 24-hour stay in the hospital is medically necessary.

The New Jersey bill follows a similar measure enacted in April in Maryland. On the home front, it inspired two Massachusetts lawmakers to introduce an even stronger version on Beacon Hill last week.

Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill, the issue made its debut last week as an influential Republican, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas, teamed up with an influential Democrat, Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey, and introduced legislation ending "drive-through delivery" by allowing a 48-hour hospital stay for new mothers who desire it.

And two weeks ago, the American Medical

Association's annual policy-making body endorsed this growing consumer revolt in a strongly worded attack on insurance policies that place "economic considerations" above medical ones.

All together, the actions of those opposed to the "OB Express" add up to a broad challenge to insurance companies' ability to dictate not only the terms of patient care but also the practice of medicine and nursing. It represents a new effort to roll back "managed care," the phrase used to describe insurance companies' micromanagement of every aspect of health care, from which doctor a patient may choose to how long a patient may stay in the hospital. Critics say a better route to cost-cutting would

CHILDBIRTH, Page 58

Suzanne Gordon is a free-lance writer based in Arlington. She is the author of several books, and is writing a book on nursing.

Putting the brakes on the OB Express

■ CHILDBIRTH

Continued from Page 57

be a more fundamental overhaul of the health care system.

The challenge was sparked by insurers' recent practice of radically limiting hospital stays for women having babies - the most frequent cause of hospitalization in the United States.

As recently as 1970, women stayed an average of almost four days in the hospital after delivery, unless it was by Caesarean section. By 1992, the median length of stay was about half that, or just over two days. In the last three years, it's been almost halved again, as insurance companies and health maintenance organizations have routinely imposed the one-day limit for normal deliveries, unless an extended stay is deemed "medically necessary."

In some states, such as California, insurers send maternity patients home as shortly as 6 hours after a normal delivery. In all states, a longer stay, such as three days, is allowed after delivery by Caesarean section.

Insurers have argued that besides cutting costs, limiting hospital stays for newborns has a health benefit: It's not good, they say, to expose babies to the germs that necessarily are present in a hospital. Thus it makes sense, they say, to limit hospital stays to 24 hours or less - in California, it's sometimes held between 6 and 12 hours - for women who have a normal delivery.

But for some families, taking home a baby less than a day old has had tragic consequences. For New Jersey lawmakers, it was the wrenching testimony of mothers and family members that most powerfully translated the real costs of managed care. Dominick A. Ruggiero Jr., 62, a retired bus driver, described how his 2-day-old niece died from a massive, treatable infection.

The baby's insurer was US Health Care, a national HMO that reportedly spends less on actual care than any other company - 72.9 cents of every dollar rather than 78 - yet pays its chief executive \$9.8 million a year. According to Ruggiero, US Health Care told Michelle Bauman that she and her 24-hour-old baby, Michelina, would have to leave the hospital. The night of her discharge, the baby became increasingly uncomfortable. The next day, their US Health Care nurse was supposed to arrive for a follow-up visit, Ruggiero testified, but she neither called nor came to the Bauman home. Alarmed by the baby's condition, the Baumans repeatedly telephoned their US Health Care pediatrician. Absent any examination, he declared, Ruggiero said, that the baby's discomfort was "normal." Michelina Bauman, 2 days old, died at 5:30 p.m.

"As far as I'm concerned," Ruggiero said, "her death certificate should read: killed by

the health care system."

Ruggiero's account helped convince New Jersey lawmakers to join in a bipartisan effort to extend hospital stays for new mothers. The battle began there last year, when two legislators introduced a bill to regulate the "OB Express." For want of public and legislative support, the bill languished until veteran Assemblywoman Rose Heck, a Republican who chairs the Assembly Advisory Council's Women's Health Group, held a hearing on women's health.

According to Myra Terry, president of the New Jersey chapter of the National Organization for Women, the hearing was the opening many women's health activists had been waiting for. NOW and other groups used the event to raise public and legislative consciousness about what it's like to ride the OB Express.

"Insurers say that a mother and newborn can stay in the hospital for 48 or 96 hours if it's medically necessary," Dr. Holly Roberts, an obstetrician, explained. But to insurers, Roberts said, "medically necessary" only seems to apply when a woman is hemorrhaging or has a high fever. "The fact that a woman has just fainted in the bathroom; that she has a rip from her vagina to her rectum and can barely walk; or is a single mom and has no help at home, none of that matters," Roberts said angrily.

THE BOSTON SUNDAY GLOBE • JULY 2, 1995

Heck said she was deeply shocked by what she learned at the hearing. "The happiest day of a woman's life was being turned into a nightmare. We felt completely incensed and that we had to move quickly," she said.

The Massachusetts legislation, just introduced by Sen. Lois Pines of Newton and Rep. Harriet Chandler of Worcester, both Democrats, is stronger than the New Jersey law. It would automatically guarantee mothers a 48- or 96-hour hospital stay. It also allows women and their doctors to decide what is medically necessary. If neither asks for a longer stay, insurers may provide less time in the hospital if they offer mothers and babies specific in-home services, including three visits by a nurse.

"I believe that the insurance industry's policies of drive-through deliveries are undermining the health and well-being of infants and their mothers," Pines said.

Many doctors agree, and resent what some call economic blackmail by insurers. "We're all under enormous pressure to get patients out of the hospital," Roberts said.

She said that recently a representative of one of the largest HMOs in her area appeared in her office. He bluntly informed her that she would be eliminated from the HMO network if she didn't get her patients out of the hospital more quickly. The message, Roberts said, was clear: It's either you or your patients.

AmeriCorps

• Continued from Page 1A

AmeriCorps from the proposed \$575 million to \$150 million. They say the Corps is nothing more than another federal jobs program that costs a lot but accomplishes little.

AmeriCorps volunteer Jennifer King of Alexander said Gingrich is wrong.

In Little Rock, King is helping feed hungry families.

Through her work with the Rice Depot and Potluck, two Pulaski County relief organizations, King, 23, developed the Red Barrel program. Red barrels have been placed in grocery stores across Pulaski County with signs that encourage people to donate food. Since November, more than 15,000 pounds of food has been collected and distributed to 17 agencies across the state.

"Because of Jennifer it was a success," said coordinator Laura Rhea. "Because it was a success it is going statewide."

King wants the House Speaker and his fellow congressional Republicans who say AmeriCorps is just another wasteful bureaucracy to know that her work has fed thousands of hungry people.

"We are getting things done," King said.

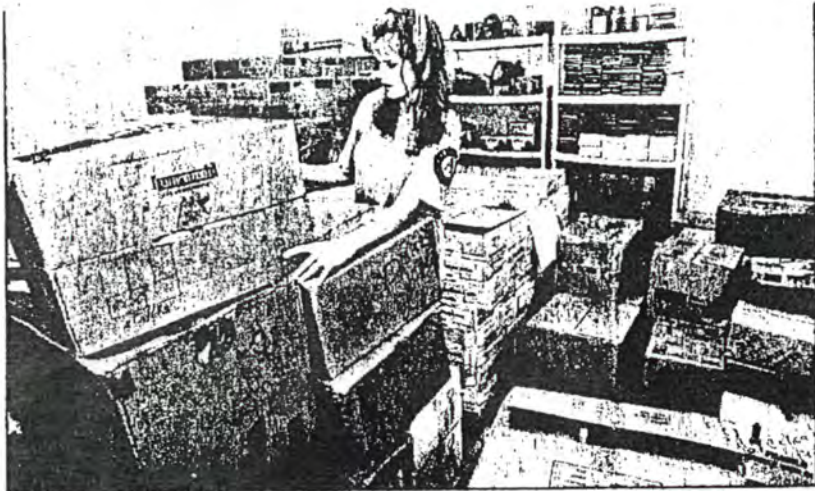
AmeriCorps supporters said the program has become a political target of the Republican Congress, eager to attack one of President Clinton's pet projects. Republicans are unapologetic.

"I think that this is something that the president wanted his name on as an achievement of his administration, but I think the people really have turned their thumbs down on these '60s-style programs," said Rep. Tim Hutchinson, R-Ark.

Clinton has saved AmeriCorps, at least for now, by vetoing the congressional rescissions package June 7. He instructed Congress to find other spending cuts. King, and her fellow 20,000 AmeriCorps volunteers across the country, are relieved.

Gingrich says AmeriCorps is getting in the way of a balanced budget.

"If you are going to get to a bal-



FEEDING THE HUNGRY — AmeriCorps volunteer Jennifer King stacks boxes of food at the Rice Depot at 8400 Asher Ave. In Little Rock, King developed the Red Barrel food collection program.

anced budget and your choice is having a nice little government bureaucracy that runs people around the country doing nice things or taking care of people with severe disabilities, where is each one on the priority list?" Gingrich said in an interview earlier this year.

One of the central tenets of AmeriCorps is that the volunteers will be placed within existing agencies so that no extra bureaucracy will be needed to create and supervise projects.

Diversity reigns

The AmeriCorps projects are diverse, and so are the volunteers. Most are college-age, but some are in their 60s. All are working on projects that fall within four "national priorities" outlined by the Corporation for National Service, the 200-employee Washington agency that oversees AmeriCorps. Those priorities are education, public safety, human needs and the environment.

A short list of the agencies where Arkansas' AmeriCorps volunteers are working includes:

- The state's Spinal Cord Commission, where AmeriCorps volunteer John Gould of Little Rock, who is paralyzed from the chest

down, counsels recently paralyzed people learning to cope with a disability.

- Central Hispano, a private, nonprofit Little Rock organization where AmeriCorps volunteer Patrick Presley helps members of Little Rock's Hispanic community learn the skills they need to get off welfare and hold jobs. He and his fellow AmeriCorps workers often serve as translators for local hospitals and police during emergency situations.

- The Resource Conservation and Development Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where Deborah Carman of Little Rock helps rural fire departments across Arkansas find the money for training and new equipment.

In Holly Grove, Spurlock also has formed citizen committees who are fighting neighborhood crime and picking up litter.

Holly Grove Mayor Lula Tyler said AmeriCorps is making her town better.

"It's miraculous for a small town," Tyler said. "We cannot afford to go out and hire a person to do what they are doing. We would have been a little dumb if it hadn't been for them."

Project Coordinator Gail Wain-

scott of the U.S. Department of Agriculture said the Holly Grove flood plain project is one that has needed to be done for years, but manpower had never been available. The Agriculture Department is overseeing the project.

"These projects might have happened 10 or 15 years from now, but they wouldn't happen as quickly as they have without these people," Waincott said. "They give more of their free time than they ever get compensated for."

Volunteers must commit to 1,700 hours of work a year for a maximum of two years. They are given a "living allowance" of roughly \$180 a week and are eligible for a post-service award of \$4,725 a year to help pay for higher education or vocational training. Individual programs are required to raise 25 percent of the operating costs and 15 percent of the living allowances from private sources. Some full-time volunteers are eligible for health insurance and child care.

Republicans say that paying "volunteers" defeats the purpose of service work.

"We've got great volunteerism in America, and we don't need to pay people and provide health

care and child care benefits and call that volunteerism," said Hutchinson, who has voted against AmeriCorps from the beginning.

Making sacrifices

Program supporters disagreed. They said the living allowance is designed to give the volunteers just enough support to allow them to devote their concentration to their service work.

"It is enough to rent an apartment and buy enough food not to starve to death," said Robin Hayes of Conway, program coordinator of the Community Alliance for a Safer Tomorrow. "It is not a program that anyone could survive on for a long time."

Hayes coordinates 23 AmeriCorps volunteers, who work at 19 different agencies across Conway and Perry counties. Most of the volunteers are college graduates who will use their grants to pay off loans or to finance post-graduate work. They are working with children who are involved with gangs or are in danger of becoming involved.

"There is no satisfaction in this, other than the knowledge that you've served a community to the best of your ability, and

AmeriCorps pledge

If nothing else, AmeriCorps volunteers in Arkansas feel good about themselves and what they are doing. From the beginning, AmeriCorps was designed to take advantage of the 1960s-style idealism recalled so fondly by its creator, President Clinton. It is embodied in the 'AmeriCorps Pledge' that new volunteers repeat at the beginning of their hitch.

*I will get things done for America
to make our people safer,
smarter and healthier.
I will bring Americans together to
strengthen our communities.
Faced with apathy, I will take action.
Faced with conflict, I will
seek common ground.
Faced with adversity, I will persevere.
I will carry this commitment
with me this year and beyond.
I am an AmeriCorps Member
and I am going to get things done.*

Democrat-Gazette staff

made a difference," Hayes said. AmeriCorps coordinators said volunteers are making personal and economic sacrifices to join the corps, and all are making a contribution to the community instead of just expecting a hand-out.

"I could get a grant to go to college and never have to pay it back," said Jennifer King, who plans to attend nursing school at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in the fall. "I'm working for this grant and giving something back."

Barbara Niess, an AmeriCorps volunteer with Central Hispano in Little Rock, was working for a community mediation and violence reduction center in Detroit before leaving to join AmeriCorps. At the center, she tried to settle neighborhood disputes before they reached the courts. She has a degree in public administration and will use her AmeriCorps education grant to continue her studies at UALR, which is becoming well-known for its urban studies programs.

Niess took a 75 percent cut in pay to serve in AmeriCorps. She said the program provides clear economic benefits for the American taxpayer.

"It's cheaper for the country to have programs like this," Niess said. "My father is a Republican, and he agrees with me."

Niess' father isn't the only Republican who feels that way.

Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn., was the lone Republican to vote against the budget cuts for AmeriCorps. A former Peace Corps volunteer, Shays said AmeriCorps is one of the best government programs he's ever seen.

"It's everything Republicans argue for," Shays said. "Republicans, for years, have said that people should earn their credits and not expect a handout. That's what they're doing here."

Shays said Clinton can save the program if he refuses to back down, and he has promised to support the president, even if it means standing alone in his party.

"Regretfully, some Republicans refuse to give President Clinton any credit, even when he is doing something right."

BusinessWeek

Government

COMMUNITY SERVICE

A SOCIAL PROGRAM CEOs WANT TO SAVE

AmeriCorps has the passionate support of even GOP execs

It's not like Erie Chapman to defend a federal do-gooder program. After all, he's a CEO, a loyal Republican, and a fundraiser for House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich (R-Ohio), leader of the GOP budget-cutting effort. Yet the head of Columbus-based U.S. Health Corp. says Kasich is wrong to target President Clinton's national service program, AmeriCorps, for extinction.

U.S. Health has pledged \$150,000 over three years to City Year, a nonprofit that sends AmeriCorps members to work at community projects in Columbus and five other cities nationwide. Chapman argues that AmeriCorps will recoup more than its \$376 million cost this year by giving youths skills to become productive adults. He has even protested the planned cuts at a Washington press conference and congressional hearing. "It's tragic to cut these programs," he says. "Why shoot a bunch of innocent kids just to get at the President?"

CALLS AND LETTERS. Chapman has plenty of company among execs lobbying their Republican pals to save Clinton's pet program. Since AmeriCorps' creation by Congress in 1993, corporations have ponied up cash, equipment, and employee volunteers to help 20,000 young adults aged 18 to 25 perform services that range from rehabbing low-income housing to cleaning up rivers. A list of donors reads like a who's who of Corpo-



TUTORING IN NEWLAND: Atlanta's Home Depot is giving \$125,000

rate America: BellSouth, Microsoft, NationsBank, Procter & Gamble, and American Express—to name a few.

It's no accident that execs find the project appealing. Unlike most bureaucratic social programs, AmeriCorps tries to operate like a business. It's run by a nonprofit company—the Corporation for National Service—rather than a federal agency. Moreover, the process of choosing the 350 service programs that are assigned to AmeriCorps participants is competitive. Thousands of local groups

submit proposals—with goals and concrete ways to measure success—and state boards pick the winners.

Besides, business is already intimately involved in the program. By law, non-government sources—usually businesses—must pay at least 25% of operational costs and 15% of the \$7,200 stipend each AmeriCorps member gets for a year of service. Participants also get a \$4,725 education grant at the end of service. Says Eli J. Segal, the former exec who heads AmeriCorps: "This translates into the kind of business buy-in that other federal programs have not had."

MORE BANG. CEOs particularly like the way AmeriCorps' pool of full-time, community-service workers allows them to leverage their own charitable efforts. Timberland Co., for example, says AmeriCorps participation was key to its five-year pledge of \$5 million in cash and equipment to City Year, whose youths nationwide are dressed in Timberland outfits. "As the program gets bigger, our investment goes further," explains Ken Freitas, vice-presi-

dent for community enterprise.

To save AmeriCorps from the GOP budget scalpel, corporate chiefs ranging from Shell Oil's Philip J. Carroll to Anheuser-Busch's August A. Busch III have written letters to Capitol Hill lawmakers. Tenneco Gas's Steve Chesebro not only sent letters to his two Republican senators—Texans Phil Gramm and Kay Bailey Hutchison—but lobbied other Houston CEOs to kick in money for the local AmeriCorps program. "We didn't say that we liked big government

or that government should take care of this through handouts," he says. "We have seen that this is productive and proven."

Home Depot CEO Bernard Marcus has written to two dozen lawmakers, including House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who represents a district in the company's home state of Georgia. One of Home Depot's favorite programs is Hands-On

AMERICORPS' CORPORATE FRIENDS

Corporate America has been a big backer of programs using AmeriCorps members. Among the supporters:

GENERAL ELECTRIC Contributed \$250,000 to 11 United Way chapters for projects, including literacy training and food pantries.

TENNECO GAS Has given \$35,000, plus printing and accounting services, to Serve Houston Youth Corps, an AmeriCorps affiliate.

NIKE Promised \$150,000 for programs in six cities to set up fitness-oriented projects, such as sports leagues and renovating playgrounds.

FANNIE MAE Gave \$100,000 to three housing groups to train AmeriCorps members to counsel low-income renters on homeownership.

DATA: AMERICORPS



Atlanta, a clearinghouse for volunteers. The company had already given \$10,000 a year to the group, but with AmeriCorps involvement, Home Depot has expanded its support by \$125,000 over three years. Now, 65 AmeriCorps members are aides in three urban schools—a program not possible with the nonprofit group's part-time volunteers. Why is Home Depot so interested? "We need people to hire," says Suzanne Apple, director of community affairs. "This program will help build self-sufficiency, self-esteem, and the leaders of tomorrow."

One of those future leaders may be 27-year-old Paul P. Promadhat, a computer aide in a Harlem elementary school. As part of his AmeriCorps-backed training, he works at Project First, a program designed by IBM and the nonprofit Public Education Fund Network. Big Blue gives \$100,000 in computers and cash and provides retirees to train aides. When his AmeriCorps stint ends in July, Promadhat hopes the school system will hire him full time as a computer troubleshooter. "This gave me an opportunity to do something I believe in," he says.

OUT FOR BLOOD? So far, such testimonials haven't moved Republicans, who seem bent on destroying the Clinton program. There may be more than money at stake: Killing AmeriCorps would yield under 1% of the more than \$1 trillion in savings the GOP needs to balance the budget by 2002, but it would be a big slap at the President. Budget Chairman Kasich denies that the GOP attacks are aimed at Clinton. "It's a matter of policy, not politics," he says. "The AmeriCorps program is expensive, inefficient, and top-heavy with bureaucracy."

AmeriCorps' opponents argue that young people should volunteer for community service without getting stipends and that the program's per-member cost is an inefficient \$30,000. "When we're cutting basic welfare to the poor, Medicare, and Head Start, you can't sustain the argument for funding AmeriCorps," says John P. Walters, president of the New Citizenship Project, a conservative policy group.

AmeriCorps officials say the program costs closer to \$18,000 per member—about 33,000 youths are expected to take part next year at a federal cost of \$575 million. And a new study by professors at the universities of Michigan and Iowa finds that each dollar spent on the program reaps \$2.60 in reduced welfare costs, increased earnings, and other benefits. With returns like that, many CEOs aren't ready to throw in the towel. So this may yet be one do-gooder program the Republicans spare.

By Susan B. Garland in Washington, with Mary Beth Reyan



AmeriCorps Investors

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE

The following is a partial list of corporate giving programs and corporate, independent and community foundations that are investing directly in local AmeriCorps programs:

Aetna
AlliedSignal
American Express
Ameritech
Anheuser-Busch
Arizona Foundation
Arthur Anderson
AT & T
Baltimore Gas & Electric
Bank of Boston
Bechtel
BellSouth
Boatman's Bank
Boeing
The Boston Company
Boston Foundation
British Petroleum
Bullitt Foundation
Burnett-Tandy Foundation
California Community Foundation
Capital Cities/ABC
Chrysler
Citizens Bank
Charles A. Dana Foundation
Digital Equipment Corporation
Echoing Green Foundation
Enron
Entergy
Fannie Mae
First Union National Bank
Fleet Bank
Ford Foundation
Ford Motor Company
The Gap
General Electric
General Mills
GH Bass
Grand Rapids Foundation
E. & W. Haas Jr. Foundation
Hall Family Foundations

Hallmark
Healthsource
The Home Depot
Houston Endowment
IBM
JCPenney
J.P. Morgan
James Irvine Foundation
Johnson & Johnson
Kauffman Foundation
W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Knight Foundation
Louisiana Power & Light
Luce Foundation
MacArthur Foundation
MBNA
McKesson
Meadows Foundation
Mellon Bank
R.K. Mellon Foundation
Meyer Foundation
Microsoft
Millipore
Mobil
Monsanto
Morgan Stanley
Charles S. Mott Foundation
NationsBank
Nike
NYNEX
Panhandle Eastern
Payless Cashways
Pew Charitable Trust
PG & E
Philip Morris
PNC Bank
Polaroid
Prince Charitable Trust
Providian Bank
Prudential Insurance

Reebok
RI Hospital Trust Bank
The Rouse Company
Safeco
Sallie Mae
Joseph E. Seagram & Sons
Shell Oil
Skillman Foundation
Sony Corporation of America
Sprint
Steelcase
Surdna Foundation
Sylvan Learning Systems
Tenneco
Texaco
Timberland
Time Warner
Toyota
Union Pacific
United Way of America
UPS
US West
U.S. Health Corporation
Utilicorp United
Waste Management
Western Resources
Weyerhaeuser
Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation
Lola Wright Foundation
Xerox

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

June 1, 1995

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AmeriCorps Community Partners

The following is a partial list of national and local volunteer, charitable and service organizations through which AmeriCorps is getting things done in over a thousand communities across the nation.

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
 SERVICE

4-H

Albany Police Department
American Red Cross
Arctic Village Tribal Council
Arlington Police Department
ASPIRA
Audubon Society
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Big Horn Police Department
Boy Scouts of America
Boys and Girls Clubs
Camp Fire Boys and Girls
Casper Police Department
Catholic Charities
Chambers of Commerce
City of Decatur of Police Department
Clearwater Police Department
Coalition of 100 Black Women
Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima
Dallas Police Department
D.A.R.E.
Ft. Worth Police Department
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls, Inc.
Goodwill Industries
Habitat For Humanity
Hart County Police Department
Head Start Programs
Humane Society
I Have a Dream Foundation
Independent Sector
Indianapolis Police Department
Jewish Family Services
Jubilee Housing
Junior League
Kickpoo Tribe
Lincoln County Sheriffs Department
Lions Club
Literacy Volunteers of America
Knick Tribal Council
Meals on Wheels
Metropolitan Police Department
of St. Louis
Mid-Atlantic Network of Youth
and Family Services
Navajo Nations
National AIDS Fund
National Center for Family Literacy

National Council of Churches of Christ
in the USA
National Council of Educational
Opportunity Associations
National Council of LaRaza
National Council of Non Profit Associations
National Endowment for the Arts
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Victim Assistance
Neighborhood Green Corps
New York University
NezPerce Tribe
Northeastern University
Ouzinkie Tribal Council
Parents Anonymous
Philadelphia Bar Association
Pinellas Sheriffs Department
Points of Light Foundation
Pompano Beach Police
Public Allies
Public Education Fund Network
Rotary Club
Salvation Army
Seattle Police Department
Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
Sierra Club
St. Petersburg Police Department
Sunflower Girls
Teach for America
Tuntutukia Traditional Council
United Cerebral Palsy
University of Texas, Austin
United Way of America
Urban League
Visiting Nurses Association
Volunteer Centers
Volunteers of America
Westin County Sheriffs Department
YMCA of the USA
YWCA

Dozens of colleges and universities
Dozens of community health centers
Dozens of police and sheriffs departments
Hundreds of elementary, junior and high schools

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

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Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps



Melanne Verveer

*To Sabrina
to fax to
Lissa*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Melanne Verveer
FROM: Ermette Williams Purce *Ermette*
RE: AmeriCorps Background Information
DATE: July 20, 1995

Attached are materials that illustrate the contributions AmeriCorps Members have made to thousands of American communities.

Per our conversation, the highlighted passages relate specifically to:

- I. Examples of "critical work" (what got done).
- II. Examples of "transformed lives" (service providers and recipients).
- III. The national service philosophy of opportunity and responsibility.
- IV. Program cost benefit analysis

Hope this information is useful.

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Part I

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Worth it?



Is it worth investing in AmeriCorps Members like Phillip Wu? An Army veteran educated by the GI Bill, Phillip understands what it means to *serve* your country and *earn* help in return. This year, he's working full time with Habitat for Humanity, one of hundreds of AmeriCorps partners across the country. And when he's done, he'll get help finishing college.

By the time his year of service is over, Phillip and his AmeriCorps team will have built 90 new homes in Miami and recruited, trained and worked along side 5,000 volunteers.

Phillip Wu isn't unique.

He's just one of 20,000 Americans who know you can do a lot with a little, if you've got the commitment to make a difference.

We're Citizens for Service and we support AmeriCorps Members who are backing up New York's finest on the front lines against crime. They're in classrooms as teachers' aides. They're fighting fires in the Northwest and floods in the heartland. They're helping the Red Cross, the YMCA, Big Brothers and Big Sisters and hundreds of local and national charities. From the Seattle Police Department to the Hoboken Rescue Squad, they're getting things done in 1,100 communities across America.



And there's one more thing. A study by a national panel of noted economists found that every AmeriCorps dollar should return \$1.60 to \$2.60 in real, tangible benefits.

AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OF JUST 1,500 OF THE 20,000 AMERICORPS MEMBERS SHOWS RESULTS LIKE THESE: FOUGHT TWO MAJOR FOREST FIRES • STARTED 258 NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCHES • KEPT 250 VACANT BUILDINGS FREE OF DRUG DEALERS • TAUGHT AND TUTORED 9,068 STUDENTS • PROVIDED LITERACY AND JOB TRAINING FOR 694 ADULTS • SETTLED 414 SCHOOL CONFLICTS • HELPED 878 VICTIMS OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC ABUSE • RESTORED 27 MILES OF RIVERBED • SCREENED 1,100 CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING AND OTHER HEALTH THREATS • COUNSELED NEARLY 9,000 PEOPLE ABOUT DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES • PROVIDED DISASTER RELIEF TO 350 VICTIMS • REPAIRED THE HOMES OF OVER 300 SENIOR CITIZENS.

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AmeriCorps

Page 10 ROLL CALL Thursday, July 13, 1995

Worth it?



Meet AmeriCorps Member Donna Shockey. Along with 19 fellow corps members, Donna has tutored half of the second graders in rural Simpson County, KY this year. The results? Their reading comprehension has increased three grade levels.

Donna is just one of 20,000 Americans who are rebuilding communities, taking responsibility and earning opportunity. When Donna's done, she'll get help with her education.

We're Citizens for Service and we support AmeriCorps Members who are getting things done in 1,100 communities across America. In fact, a study by a panel of noted economists found that every AmeriCorps dollar should return \$1.60 to \$2.60 in real, tangible benefits.

AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OF JUST 1,500 OF THE 20,000 AMERICORPS MEMBERS SHOWS RESULTS LIKE THESE: FOUGHT TWO MAJOR FOREST FIRES • STARTED 250 NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCHES • KEPT 250 VACANT BUILDINGS FREE OF DRUG DEALERS • TAUGHT AND TUTORED 9,068 STUDENTS • PROVIDED LITERACY AND JOB TRAINING FOR 654 ADULTS • SETTLED 414 SCHOOL CONFLICTS • HELPED 878 VICTIMS OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC ABUSE • RESTORED 27 MILES OF RIVERBED • SCREENED 1,100 CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING AND OTHER HEALTH THREATS • COUNSELED NEARLY 9,000 PEOPLE ABOUT DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES • PROVIDED DISASTER RELIEF TO 350 VICTIMS • REPAIRED THE HOMES OF OVER 300 SENIOR CITIZENS.



AmeriCorps

ROCK HARD RESULTS

Paid for by Citizens for Service

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Page 10 ROLL CALL Monday, July 17, 1995

Worth it?

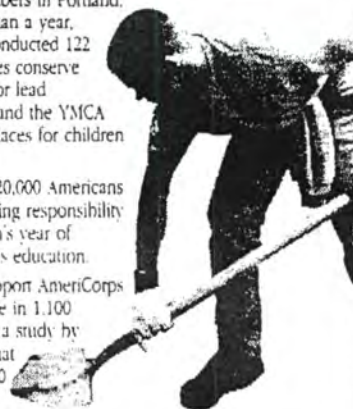


Consider AmeriCorps Member Colin Yost and his four fellow corps members in Portland,

Oregon. In less than a year, they've weatherized 72 homes and conducted 122 energy audits, helping working families conserve energy. They've tested 200 children for lead poisoning, and helped local schools and the YMCA build community gardens and safe places for children to play.

Colin Yost isn't unique. He's one of 20,000 Americans who are rebuilding communities, taking responsibility and earning opportunity. When Colin's year of service is done, he'll get help with his education.

We're Citizens for Service and we support AmeriCorps Members who are getting things done in 1,100 communities across America. In fact, a study by a panel of noted economists found that every AmeriCorps dollar returns \$1.60 to \$2.60 in real, tangible benefits.



AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OF JUST 1,500 OF THE 20,000 AMERICORPS MEMBERS SHOWS RESULTS LIKE THESE: FOUGHT TWO MAJOR FOREST FIRES • STARTED 254 NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCHES • KEPT 254 VACANT BUILDINGS FREE OF DRUG DEALERS • TAUGHT AND TUTORED 9,068 STUDENTS • PROVIDED LITERACY AND JOB TRAINING FOR 694 ADULTS • SETTLED 414 SCHOOL CONFLICTS • HELPED 878 VICTIMS OF SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC ABUSE • RESTORED 27 MILES OF RIVERBED • SCREENED 1,100 CHILDREN FOR LEAD POISONING AND OTHER HEALTH THREATS • COUNSELED NEARLY 9,000 PEOPLE ABOUT DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES • PROVIDED DISASTER RELIEF TO 350 VICTIMS • REPAIRED THE HOMES OF OVER 300 SENIOR CITIZENS.

Photo by Charles G. Street

AmeriCorps

ROCK HARD RESULTS

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**DRAFT****Proposed Op-Ed for Director James Lee Witt**

Budget resolutions passed in the House and Senate recommend eliminating AmeriCorps, the new national service program. If that is done, the American public and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will lose a strong and tested partner.

In its first year of providing local organizations with committed individuals who serve full-time, AmeriCorps has worked repeatedly with FEMA, helping us improve how we deliver assistance in disasters and how we help people recover from their losses. In dealing with floods, earthquakes and the tragic bombing in Oklahoma City, AmeriCorps members have been critical members of the full team effort that we have used to approach disaster. AmeriCorps joined us in working hard to show the American people that when disaster strikes and they need our help, they can count on us to be there.

Having seen first hand how AmeriCorps gets things done, I hope that Congress will put politics aside and judge AmeriCorps on its ability to respond quickly and efficiently to the needs of our communities.

When disaster strikes, FEMA receives a great deal of help from many quarters; we count on the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and many other voluntary organizations. But the real key to effective response is to rapidly get people who know a community out to assist it--people who will work with individuals and local governments to assess needs and start the recovery process. These people work with disaster victims, helping them apply for assistance, feeding and sheltering those left homeless, cleaning up homes and business so they can re-open and working with special needs of seniors and other segments of the community. Community outreach makes

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the difference in moving toward recovery and economic stability. This work requires unique talents, expertise and a commitment to be in the community for the duration of the recovery period. It is exactly the kind of service that AmeriCorps is designed to do.

In disaster after disaster, AmeriCorps members have made the difference in how quickly we have helped individuals and whole communities recover socially and economically.. And this difference has led to a more efficient and cost-effective federal response. My experience with AmeriCorps members dates back to the Northridge Earthquake, where they gave great support to our response and recovery efforts. That relationship was strengthened during the flooding in Houston last October, where 24 members of the Serve Houston program worked for six weeks with our community relations staff and helped set up the recovery program. They helped dispense food at Red Cross assistance shelters and went door to door to contact residents of 1,300 households in neighborhoods that needed special attention. I visited with AmeriCorps members who were ~~leaning~~ and scrubbing walls in the home of ~~and~~ elderly couple, Carl and Carrie Ward. I didn't have to ask the Wards if they thought AmeriCorps was a good investment in our future.

FEMA's working relationship with AmeriCorps continues to grow. Fifty AmeriCorps members worked with the Red Cross in Louisiana to provide mass care after the recent flooding. Before we could even request their help, a dozen AmeriCorps members from St. Louis came to assist our work in Oklahoma City. They helped set up the best donations program in FEMA's history--a huge job given the tremendous outpouring of help from the city and around the country. The young AmeriCorps people made sure it was used in the most efficient manner., coordinating eight donation sites and organizing materials used by the rescue workers, goods such as knee pads, tools and respirators.

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Our working group on reinventing government recommends that we expand FEMA's relationship with AmeriCorps, chiefly because it is such a big help to victims to work with motivated, self-sufficient young people who will be in the community for a while and are well-versed in services available beyond disaster relief. That relationship offers an enormous collateral benefit as well--after their year of service, AmeriCorps members who go on to jobs or college can be a regular asset to FEMA as part of our "DAE" contingent, the group we activate during disasters to help us administer programs. Former AmeriCorps members will represent a pool of dedicated people, already trained and possessing a working knowledge of FEMA and its programs and policies. The challenges of recent years--from hurricanes on the east coast to flooding in the west and midwest, to fires and earthquakes in California--have taught us that the emergency management community will always need a cadre of disaster experts who are committed to public service.

That need reflects the many other needs that our communities feel as they face crises in a time of limited resources. At FEMA, we think of AmeriCorps members as apprentices who are preparing to meet the challenges of the future. Like the 350 local programs that host and direct AmeriCorps' activities in our cities, towns and rural areas, we have seen that AmeriCorps works and works well. We know who the 20,000 AmeriCorps members are--young citizens who come mostly from hard-working, middle income families--people who can use a chance to earn help paying for college. And we at FEMA know that, most of all, AmeriCorps members are people who take on responsibility and bring people together to solve real problems. They make America stronger. Let's hope that Congress gives them a chance to continue their work.

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AGUIRRE INTERNATIONAL

1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 1000 • Rosslyn, VA 22209-2019

411 Borel Avenue, Suite 402 • San Mateo, CA 94402

AmeriCorps*USA at Five Months

A Summary of Accomplishments from 52 Randomly Selected Sites¹

March 22, 1995

The following report aggregates and summarizes the bulk of the accomplishments of 1,654 AmeriCorps*USA Members serving at 52 sites that were selected randomly from across the nation. Listed accomplishments represent the efforts of approximately 8% of AmeriCorps*USA's operating sites during the first five months of operation--from September, 1994 through January, 1995.

The accomplishments are grouped within AmeriCorps*USA's four issue areas: education, public safety, health and human needs, and environmental and neighborhood restoration. The list, while both long and diverse, is not exhaustive; not every accomplishment has been captured. Nevertheless, the list summarizes the major accomplishments of the selected sites.

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¹ Accomplishments listed are from reviews conducted with each operating site by Aguirre International evaluators between February 7 and March 9, 1995.



Education

The AmeriCorps Members helped children and youth from impoverished urban and rural communities to succeed in school. They taught in classrooms, established new learning programs in and out of school, and prepared preschoolers for the demands of school. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Taught 1,430 and tutored 7,638 pre-school, elementary, and junior high school students in basic educational skills.
- Conducted enriched learning programs and initiated new ones — such as computer-based reading instruction, peer tutoring, scientific experimentation, and programs for children with special needs — for 6,414 children.
- Established after-school and vacation programs to reinforce the academic involvement of 4,656 children.

The AmeriCorps Members helped at-risk children succeed in school by assisting them and their families to develop their sense of civic and community responsibility and to become more stable, more self-sufficient, and more involved in the community. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Organized and supervised community service projects for 4,469 at-risk children and youth. Projects included neighborhood cleanups and providing food for elderly people.
- Counseled, taught parenting skills, and/or provided problem solving assistance to 390 families, 183 teen parents, and the low-income families of 440 children at risk of failing in school.
- Provided literacy or employment-related training for 694 adults.
- Provided intensive educational support — including regular counseling — to 30 troubled teenagers living in group homes and 33 low-income children, including 22 homeless preschoolers.

Public Safety

The AmeriCorps Members started neighborhood safety programs, mobilized neighbors, and improved community/police relations, resulting in safer communities. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Escorted 8,500 children to school through safe corridors.
- Started 258 neighborhood safety programs and patrolled 250 vacant buildings to prevent violence, drug-dealing and other illegal activities.
- Initiated 2 programs to improve community/police relations, including assisting a police mobile unit.

The AmeriCorps Members worked to prevent violence in school by teaching mediation techniques, resulting in decreased incidence of violence and negative behavior. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Resolved 414 school conflicts that might otherwise have ended in violence or with students dropping out of school because of fear of violence.
- Taught conflict resolution techniques to 8,119 school children.
- Counseled and taught alternatives to violence to 1,350 potential or actual gang members and 54 parents of children at risk of becoming involved in gangs.
- Initiated 3 programs to train school and community members to implement violence prevention activities.
- Secured donated materials and created a memorial garden and mural in memory of 3 children slain in the streets.

The AmeriCorps Members worked to prevent violence and drug abuse in families and communities and provided direct assistance to victims of crime as well as referring them to needed services. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Conducted workshops for 220 at-risk individuals about family violence prevention.
- Answered crisis hotline calls and made referrals for 878 victims of sexual and domestic violence.
- Provided each of 470 victims of sexual and domestic violence with 30 days of counseling and assistance.
- Counseled 35 elementary or high-school students in crisis as a result of rape, violence, or home difficulties.
- Counseled 1,180 teenagers about alcohol and drug abuse.
- Conducted home visits about drug or alcohol abuse prevention with 120 community residents.

Health and Human Needs

The AmeriCorps Members made independent living easier for disabled, elderly, or hospitalized individuals by providing direct support service and by recruiting and organizing community volunteers. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Helped 123 elderly persons, 50 visually impaired adults, and 9 visually impaired children live independently.
- Provided job-related training, independent living assistance and/or medical referrals for 135 mentally ill or developmentally disabled persons.
- Organized weekly social activities for 400 elderly nursing home residents.
- Constructed wheel-chair accessible trails, ramps, or sidewalks at 3 parks, 5 low-income homes, and 4 public buildings.
- Obtained donated materials, trained 58 volunteers, and repaired the homes of 296 elderly persons.

The AmeriCorps Members provided emergency medical services, as well as health training and education. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Trained 1,144 inner-city residents in CPR.
- Provided emergency medical services to over 1,500 people.
- Screened 1,100 low-income children for lead toxicity and other health risks.
- Provided health counseling, education, or referrals and transportation to 220 low-income families and over 5,000 individuals.
- Disseminated health care information to 4,567 individuals.
- Distributed 150 children's car seats to low-income families.
- Conducted immunization screenings — immunizing 158 individuals and notifying 500 others of their families' need to be immunized.
- Administered 301 HIV tests and counseled patients regarding results.
- Conducted workshops and distributed information on AIDS and tuberculosis to over 7,000 people.

The AmeriCorps Members helped meet the basic needs of low-income and homeless people for food and shelter. They improved low-income housing, fed the hungry, and improved the methods of service referral and delivery. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Renovated 238 inner-city housing units and 99 rural homes; began renovation of 121 more.
- Refurbished 2 homeless shelters and began to renovate 3 buildings — one for seniors, one for battered women, and one for the formerly homeless.
- Distributed food to more than 16,625 low-income people and packed 7,000 dinners and 32,000 breakfasts for the hungry.
- Found shelter for 400 homeless families, and sorted and distributed clothes to 350 homeless individuals.
- Secured hospice housing for 27 people with AIDS and helped feed (on a weekly basis) 1,250 people who have AIDS or who are HIV positive.
- Provided housing information or counseling to over 500 low-income and homeless families.
- Secured donated furniture, repaired it, and delivered it to 300 newly-housed families.

Environmental and Neighborhood Restoration

The AmeriCorps Members responded to emergencies, including post-disaster environmental restorations, and worked to improve emergency response capacity in parks and public lands. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Inspected and repaired 87 small dams, protecting 200 farms.
- Provided disaster recovery assistance to 350 land owners recovering from a flood; activities included sand and soil deposit mapping, advice on pasture and hayland management, watershed mapping, and computer simulations to plan floodplain management.
- Fought 2 major forest fires and saved 1 national park road from washing out.
- Joined at least 5 search and rescue efforts.

The AmeriCorps Members restored and stabilized the natural environment and wildlife habitats. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Planted 212,500 trees.
- Restored 320 acres of wild land areas by repairing fire and flood damage, re-planting to prevent erosion, and fencing off wetlands to prevent illegal dumping.
- Restored or stabilized 27 miles of riverbed and stream banks to improve the habitat of salmon; fenced another 7 miles to keep cattle from destroying spawning grounds; repaired three aquaculture tanks with a capacity to rear 1,000,000 salmon fry per year.
- Removed 2,000 lbs. of trash from an urban river.
- Monitored water quality in 2 parkland areas.
- Surveyed 5,700 acres of National Forest land as part of reforestation programs to monitor reforestation efforts; conducted biological inventories on 12,000 acres of wetland.
- Built, restored, or maintained 311 campsites, 88 miles of parkland trails, 17 bridges, and 1 mile of forest service road.
- Cleaned up storm debris and trash on 3 beaches, protected sand dunes on one beach, and built one wildlife observation platform and 3 duck blinds.

The AmeriCorps Members improved neighborhoods, parks, and recreation facilities by converting vacant lots, renovating buildings, repairing public facilities, and conducting recycling and conservation programs, resulting in a heightened sense of community ownership. Specific accomplishments include the following:

- Renovated 11 community buildings, including an inner-city medical clinic, community centers, and public schools.
- Converted 29 overgrown lots into green space; built 7 community gardens; planted trees along 30 city blocks.
- Cleaned 27 miles of road, restored 1 community reservoir, removed illegally dumped garbage from one community; and unclogged more than 14,000 storm drains.
- Created 4 playgrounds, designed 1 picnic area, and improved safety at 1 scenic overlook.
- Restored, repaired, or maintained 19 historical landmarks and a traditional tribal longhouse.
- Completed 61 inner-city neighborhood clean-ups — including a city-wide graffiti removal.
- Distributed 1,375 low flush toilets and 1,700 water conserving showerheads in low-income neighborhoods — along with over 1,400 water conservation guides.
- Recycled 920 inefficient toilets and 1,120 inefficient showerheads.



Part II

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THE TORONTO STAR

CONTEXT

ANALYSIS • COMMENTARY • WORLD REPORT • SCIENCE

Sunday, June 18, 1995 Section F

Clinton's army

meriCorps
 supporters say it
 transforms lives.
 Critics counter
 it's a mess

By CAROL GOAR
 WASHINGTON BUREAU

BEFORE JAMIE Kendrick became an AmeriCorps volunteer, there were parts of Baltimore he had never seen. He knew about the poverty of the inner city, but white, middle-class kids stayed in the suburbs.

Now he has played basketball at some of the roughest schools. He has taken a group of 10 youngsters into a Jewish nursing home. He rented a downtown apartment.

"I've seen a whole new part of American culture," says Kendrick. "I think I'll be better for it."

Kendrick is a 20-year-old political science student at the University of Maryland. Last summer, he decided to take a year off school to give something back to his community.

AmeriCorps, President Bill Clinton's youth service program, gave him a chance to do it. It allows students to earn tuition money while working with disadvantaged, building houses, cleaning up pollution, restoring public housing and walking the streets with neighborhood cops.

"I'm exactly the kind of person this program was created to," Kendrick says. "My family's not rich. If I kept going to college, I would have been paying loans till I was 40."

But Republicans want to kill AmeriCorps. They say it is a wasteful make-work program.

Clinton is determined to save his national youth service. To him, it represents what government should be doing in the '90s: investing in youth, education and community service.

But President won the first skirmish. This month, he vetoed a Republican bill that would have slashed AmeriCorps' 1995 budget by 72 per cent. But the Republicans are vowing to get their revenge. They intend to cut off funding entirely in 1996.

For a relatively small program — its budget is \$9 million, which amounts to one-thirtieth of 1 per cent of federal spending — AmeriCorps has unleashed a torrent of political rhetoric.

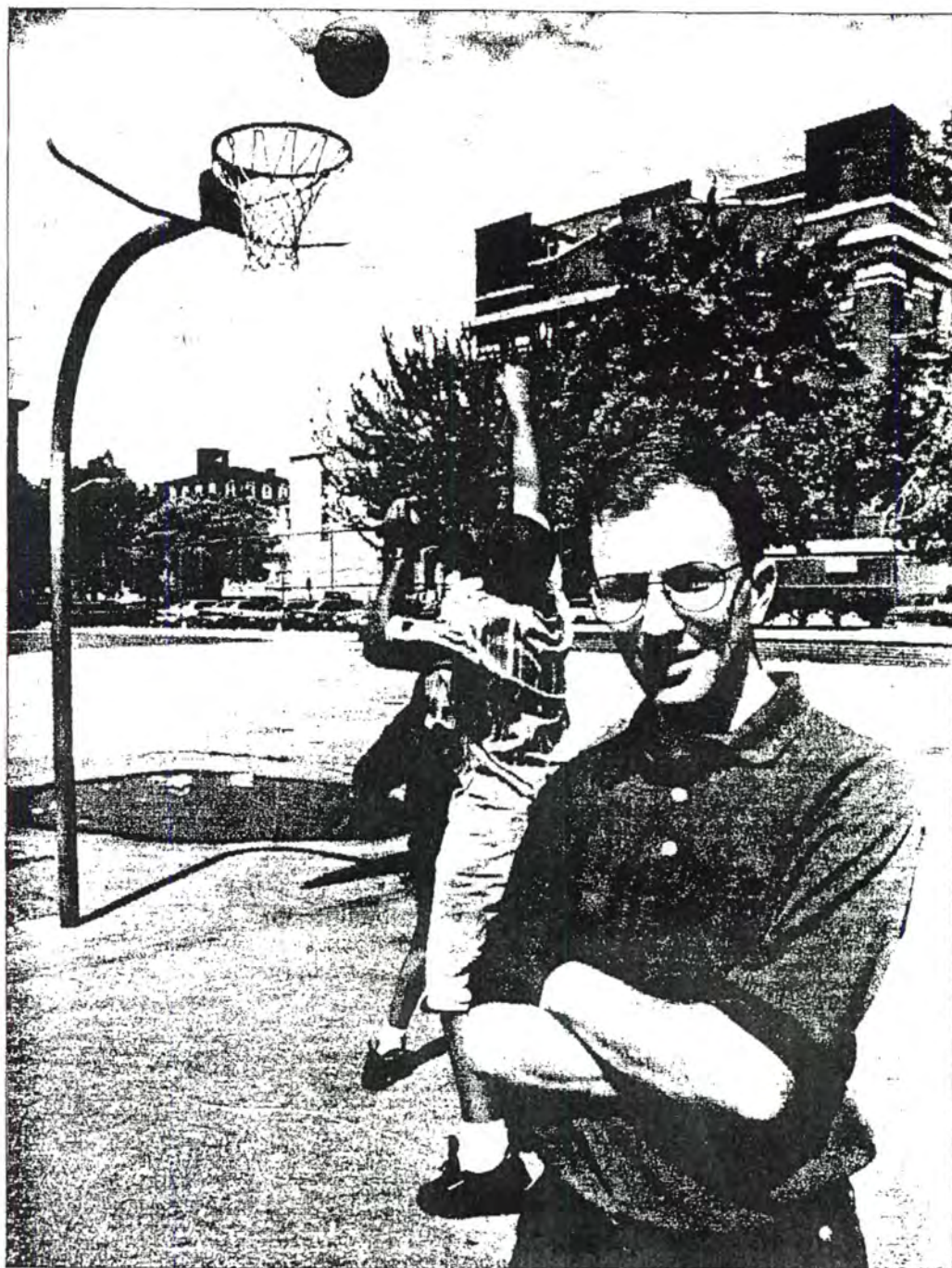
"I am totally opposed to national service," House Speaker Newt Gingrich said this spring. "It is cold voluntarism."

Clinton countered. "It is a proud achievement. It is a grass-roots partnership to build strong communities through opportunity and responsibility."

Republican Jerry Lewis of California, who heads a congressional committee that oversees AmeriCorps, says the worthiness of the program's goals — "helping students afford a college education or develop a positive work ethic" — are not in dispute. However no program — no matter how well-intended — deserves a free ride at taxpayer expense," Lewis says.

Gracye Brewer, 22, wishes they'd just stop arguing and spend a day with her.

She is a black single mother working toward her psychology degree. Last summer she signed up for "Icig Me," an AmeriCorps project in Baltimore that matches troubled youngsters with lonely elder-



EYES OPENED: "I've seen a whole new part of American culture," says AmeriCorps volunteer Jamie Kendrick.

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PHOTO BY CAROL GOAR

despite the threat of cutbacks

(Continued from p. 1)

ly people. "I'm not a political person at all," she says. "I'm not a fighter. But I would say to anybody who wants to cut our program: Come and see the work we do."

She has watched a withdrawn 13-year-old boy who had just lost his father learn to trust a lonely pensioner. She has seen elderly people open up to disadvantaged children. She has felt her own pride and confidence grow.

"When I walk away at the end of this, I know I will have made a huge difference."

Unlike Kendrick, she did not join AmeriCorps because she felt privileged or out of touch with life in the inner city. She'd seen too much of it.

"My own community never did anything for me," she says with a trace of bitterness. "So I don't feel I have anything to give back."

"I want to give these kids what was never given to me. I would have loved it if someone had come into my life when I was their age."

There are 20,000 young people working on AmeriCorps projects across the country. They do a nine-month tour of duty, earning \$4.50 per hour (minimum wage.) At the end, they are issued a voucher worth \$4,725 that can only be used for educational expenses.

These are not, by and large, rich kids. Eighty per cent come from families with household incomes below \$50,000. Nor are they restless young achievers like the graduates who signed up for the Peace Corps in the 1960s. Most AmeriCorps members are struggling to put themselves through university or community college.

About half the participants are white, 31 per cent are black and the rest are Hispanic, Indian and Asian.

Each AmeriCorps worker costs the government \$17,600, about half the cost of a Peace Corps volunteer.

The program has its problems. There are too many bureaucrats at the federal, state and local levels trying to run and regulate it.

The agency's structure is incomprehensible. Its chain of command is bewildering. At its head office in Washington, phone calls go unanswered for days. The T-shirts that were supposed to be ready when AmeriCorps was launched in August weren't available till January.

"We're in our first year," says Sue Baumgardner, one of 50 AmeriCorps leaders. "We're building the plane as we fly it."

But one thing has worked from the beginning. The program has tapped into a wellspring of idealism among the nation's young people. AmeriCorps volunteers have impressed everyone they've met with their enthusiasm, public spiritedness and appetite for hard work.

Reading scores have gone up in rural Kentucky since AmeriCorps workers launched a literacy program. A drug-infested vacant lot in Miami has been turned into a community garden.

AmeriCorps workers put in some of the longest hours, with the fewest complaints, at the Oklahoma City bombing.

"I haven't seen a single non-worthy project," admits Senator Charles Grassley, a Republican from Iowa.

If the program dies, he says, it will

be because Clinton made it too easy a target for his opponents.

"He raised the political stakes, so it's easier to take potshots."

This kind of gamesmanship frustrates and embitters AmeriCorps workers.

"There are reasons why people don't vote in this country," says Adele Cozart, a tart-tongued 39 year old who wants to go back to school and become a youth worker. "They see politicians say this or that doesn't work. How would they know? They haven't lived the life we live. They haven't seen the results."

"How can they say it costs too much?" asks Nicole Goode, a 25 year old studying international affairs. "I don't understand how it could cost too much compared to weapons."

"Anything that's good, governments

seem to cut," says Tracye Brewer dejectedly.

Jamie Kendrick, who describes himself as a conservative, initially had some sympathy for AmeriCorps critics. He saw the inefficiencies in the program. He wondered if taxpayers were getting their money's worth.

But as the months passed, his doubts melted. He saw inner-city kids, who had never had individual attention, begin to blossom. He saw elderly people, who had given up caring, light up when a 13-year-old walked into the room.

"I don't think folks understand what we do here," he says. "For a lot of kids, we're the only one there is."

Three months ago, he got a call from the White House. The president wanted to feature him in his weekly radio address. Kendrick was astute enough

to know that he was being used. But he believed AmeriCorps was worth it.

Clinton waxed sadly sentimental.

"The Republicans are proposing to cut off opportunities for people like Jamie," he said. "I want to keep AmeriCorps growing."

"We must keep faith with the American dream. The Jamie Kendricks of our country will do right by all of us if we will do right by them."

Kendrick is a little embarrassed about it now. It wasn't really a big deal, he says. The president barely spoke to him. He was whisked in and out of the Oval Office with brisk efficiency. He got his picture taken.

AmeriCorps has taught Kendrick a fair bit about politics. But it has taught him more about his city and himself.

Those are the lessons he'll keep for life.



ANOTHER CHANCE: Shannon Ottaviani, 25, helps out a food bank in western Maryland. The single mother plans to use her AmeriCorps voucher to attend university.

Bringing hope to the hinterland

BY CAROL GOAR
WASHINGTON BUREAU

FROSTBURG, Md.—The Appalachians hide their poverty well.

All a traveller sees from the road are lush hillsides and cozy villages dominated by church spires.

The AmeriCorps workers know what lies behind the picturesque facade.

Hilda Peterson picks her way up a weed-choked road in Allegany County every week to deliver food to an elderly couple living in a dilapidated trailer. They have no electricity or running water.

Shannon Ottaviani went out to explain the state's energy assistance program but found so many pensioners shivering through the winter that she ended up organizing a blanket drive.

Linda Dahlen, who heads "Appalachian Service Through Action," the AmeriCorps program in western

Maryland, knew how desperate things were when she was deluged with applications — not from students hoping to earn tuition money, but from longtime residents who thought \$4.50 an hour was a good wage.

Her 25-member team does a little of everything: builds houses, runs a food bank, visits the elderly and is putting in place a youth literacy program.

Ottaviani, a 25-year-old single mother, grew up in the region and had seen a lot of rural poverty before she joined AmeriCorps. But even she has been shocked.

"Till you go into people's homes, you don't know how bad it is," she says. "It makes your problems seem really small."

When she had her daughter, 3½ years ago, Ottaviani had to drop out of community college. She didn't think she would ever be able to go back to school.

AmeriCorps, in which participants

work nine months at minimum wage to earn a \$4,725 education voucher, has given her a second chance. She plans to go to university and get a degree in biology.

Peterson, 45, doesn't fit the standard profile of an AmeriCorps worker. She has seven children and four grandchildren. She's been out of school for 25 years. But she dreams of becoming a physiotherapist.

It upsets Dahlen, a former Peace Corps volunteer, when she hears right-wing politicians who know nothing about rural poverty attacking her program.

"It isn't a matter of logic," she says. "If it were, they'd be coming out to see our program. We're getting people off welfare, giving them work experience, helping them get an education."

"If the Democrats hadn't invented this program, the Republicans would have."

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Americorps Worker Finds Rewarding Work in Local Service

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Jon Parham
The Morning News

Rogers

the national service program, he said, is to get involved and find out what the community needs, then get it done.

It is the most rewarding job ever, Guerra said without hesitation. Every day that he goes to work, he said, there is a possible positive point: His actions could make somebody's life better.

"There is no more real job than this," he said.

Through the Association of Farmworkers Opportunity Program, Guerra travels around the area to help farm workers with pesticide safety. The education can mean life or death for handlers of pesticides, he said. People have gotten sick and died as a result of improper pesticide handling, Guerra said. Some might not even realize the source of their sickness. Symptoms are similar to the flu.

Guerra prefers not to talk about himself, he said he is just "a worker." He would rather talk about the Americorps concept of community involvement or upcoming projects he is working on. He admitted that he never imagined he

would be doing what he was doing in Rogers.

Originally from South Texas, Guerra worked in the cotton fields from an early age. Picking cotton from dawn until dusk was a "lifestyle — not a part-time job," he said. As he got older his family migrated seasonally, working the strawberry fields in Oregon — then traveling down to California to work.

Disputing popular misconceptions, Guerra called migrant life "good." He said many may worry over the "poor souls" who do the migrant work, but he said he and his co-workers never saw it as a burden.

"With us it was either time to go up to Oregon for the strawberries," he said, "or it was time to go down to California for the pickles or the strawberries, or it was time to go to the house."

After a stint in the Air Force during the early 1970s, Guerra returned to South Texas, where he was a carpenter and construction worker by trade. Then in 1981, he loaded up his own family and went back to Oregon to work in the strawberry fields and live in the camps. He said

he wanted his sons to be exposed to that lifestyle.

"It humbles you," he said of the experience. He added he considered it a good thing, something that could open up his childrens' minds.

In 1987, Guerra was on his way to Florida when he stopped in Arkansas. The breakdown of a vehicle forced a stay that ended up being longer than expected. Last year, a friend recommended he try to get involved with Americorps.

Hired in February, Guerra was sent to Washington for four days of "intense" but "wonderful" training with another 20,000 people who had signed on for national service. Then he and 65 other pesticide trainers fanned out across 11 states to get to work. Guerra, who is sponsored locally by the Office of Human Concern, said he is grateful to the them for taking him in and providing office space.

Bill Brown, who heads up the Office of Human Concern in Rogers, said having Guerra here is good and a positive experience for everyone involved.

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PRESERVATION

The volunteers of AmeriCorps and smaller programs like it are making a difference with their ...

Esprit de Corps



PHOTOS BY
JOHN DOMAN

STAFF
PHOTOGRAPHER

STORY BY
ANN BAKER

STAFF
WRITER

AmeriCorps' bonds are helping children and volunteers alike.



Isis Mitchell, a St. Paul volunteer for Future Force, a local unit of AmeriCorps, shares her swing with one of her young charges, Ebony Nelson, 4, at the playground of the Ober Club, a shelter for women.

For three years, Roosevelt Bastley's report cards were all 1s and 2s, the equivalents of Ds and Cs at St. Paul's East Side Consolidated Elementary School.

Now he is ending fourth grade with high marks: 3s and 4s — in behavior as well as math and science.

In Roosevelt's mind, there is no question why. It's the two young men of the AmeriCorps national service program who have been full-time tutors and group leaders at the school since September.

Seated on a beanbag chair at a meeting of the African-American boys support group, led by AmeriCorps volunteers Marc Collins and Steven Bates, Roosevelt said: "They help us know who we are ... somebody special."

"I agree," said sixth-grader Bobby Ivy. "They're people we look up to. I learned fighting doesn't solve anything. If I have a problem, I can talk to them."

Good news about AmeriCorps is emerging from schools, community centers and social-service agencies across the nation, nine months after 20,000 young adults jumped into service. Full-timers get \$633 a month and \$4,700 in college tuition or student loan payments.

Last summer, when President Clinton launched "the domestic Peace Corps of the 1990s," he said he wanted it to grow to 100,000 by 1997. But now the program is targeted by Congress for budget cuts, and its future appears in doubt.

CORPS CONTINUED ON 3D ▶

CORPS/Program called 'force for democracy'

▶ CONTINUED FROM 1D

In the Twin Cities and statewide, 350 young volunteers are on the job, building a nature center, renovating homes, developing bilingual preschool materials and working with immigrants, battered women and homeless families.

Unlike other states, Minnesota subsidizes the effort with a \$3.6 million appropriation called Youth Works.

A University of Minnesota evaluation of the first six months praises the state's program as responsive and flexible.

"It is making changes," Don Luna said last week at a meeting that introduced the program to local corporate and foundation officials, who later may be asked for cash. Luna was hired by St. Paul to direct 65 AmeriCorps volunteers organized under a group called Future Force.

"It's a force for democracy," said Scott Jerbi, a volunteer on a team that works with preschoolers and their parents. "It allows people to be active participants instead of recipients of service."

"It's responding to people's needs," said Eric Adams, who heads another AmeriCorps unit of 32 volunteers at

Neighborhood House on St. Paul's West Side.

Some volunteers run projects that local agencies wanted but couldn't run for lack of staff. Some have been struck by the needs and challenges they see confronting children and adults. And some say they have found their life's work.

Trenese Jones, 19, started a job-readiness class for adolescent girls at Neighborhood House. She wants to be a social worker.

Cecilia Generus, a graduate of the College of St. Benedict, recruits mentors for Hispanic high school students, who drop out of high school at three times the average rate.

At the West Side Boys and Girls Club, membership has jumped from 50 to 120 since Metropolitan State University student Tung Khanh started come-door-to-door enlisting young people to join the club.

Elise Nelson, a 1990 graduate of Concordia College in Moorhead, contacts teachers and parents of 50 young club members at risk of joining gangs. She steers the kids into music, art, sports and activities in which they take responsibility

for younger kids.

"A lot of the kids I see coming up here don't feel important," she said. "I think the key is personal attention."

Alex Hivero, 19, decided to become a teacher after teaching math games to Spanish-speaking children at Humboldt. Bryan Vuc, a 1992 graduate of the University of Wisconsin, decided to become a youth worker after leading a team of tutors and recreation leaders in Highland Park.

Sarah Schaefer, a high school graduate with a year-old daughter, decided to finish a chef's course at a technical college. If she hadn't joined AmeriCorps, she said, "I'd have been on welfare."

At East Consolidated, AmeriCorps volunteers Collins and Bates have shown boys new ways to cope with life. They answer questions when teachers are too busy, sort out rumors that create conflicts, play basketball with the kids, tell them to walk away from fights, show them that progress comes slowly and with effort.

"Both of them made a choice," said Roosevelt. "They could have dropped out of high school and be killing people, but they didn't. They stayed in school."

St. Paul Pioneer Press - Monday, May 29, 1995

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PRESERVATION



Part III

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**



A PRESIDENT'S ROOTS

BY BILL CLINTON



RECENTLY HEARD FROM A POLICE OFFICER IN CHAPEL HILL,

North Carolina. He described how service is changing the lives of young people in his neighborhood. Volunteers come in to help the kids with their homework, and many are already doing better in school. Many drug dealers and members of gangs want to make a new start. But it was the last thing, the simplest thing, that impressed me the most. He said, "These kids never had any respect for the property before. Now they've learned that 'this is our place.'"

Too often we forget that this nation – and each of its communities – is our place. We see people living out on the street or children who are having children or a park that's filled with broken glass, and we think these things are separate from our lives. We forget that these people and predicaments are part of us in hundreds of ways. They're part of our families, our universities, our offices, our churches, our cities, and our country. When we serve, we cannot forget. Service is a sometimes gentle and sometimes forceful reminder of the importance of these connections.

This is one of the most valuable lessons I learned at Georgetown University. Great faculty like Carroll Quigley and Otto Hentz, S.J., often encouraged us to take part in the life of the city. But even more important, I learned about service from my classmates – young women and men who took the time to tutor children, help out in soup kitchens or organize food drives, and who were always very humble about their work.

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HOWEVER WE ANSWER THE CALL TO SERVICE, EACH OF US WHO SERVES
FEELS TIED TO OUR COMMUNITY, GRATEFUL FOR WHAT IT HAS
GIVEN US, AND RESPONSIBLE FOR GIVING SOMETHING BACK.

The call to service is different for each of us. For some, service means simply working hard and helping out family and friends in times of need. For others it means working together through volunteer organizations: feeding the homeless at a local soup kitchen with a church group; distributing blankets and medicine after a flood with the American Red Cross; teaching leadership and values to young people through the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts of America; or working with local police departments to help make neighborhoods safer. For still others, the call to service has demanded a full-time commitment — whether as teachers or caregivers or as servicemen and women. However we answer the call to service, each of us who serves feels tied to our community, grateful for what it has given us, and responsible for giving something back.

Of all the progress my administration has made toward helping hard-working Americans, the one accomplishment of which I am most proud — and the one that draws most directly on my Georgetown University education — is creating the AmeriCorps national service program. AmeriCorps gives young citizens the opportunity to serve their country and earn an education in return. It demands a lot and gets things done. An independent firm recently completed a survey of 10 percent of AmeriCorps' sites selected at random. Over the first five months, among hundreds of other accomplish-

ments, these AmeriCorps Members taught 1,430 students; helped feed over 50,000 hungry people; helped 350 landowners to recover from a flood; planted over 200,000 trees; and taught CPR to 1,144 inner-city residents.

AmeriCorps achieves these kinds of results because it's smart government based on marketplace principles and layers of intense competition. States compete for resources and programs compete for AmeriCorps members. Over 200,000 citizens expressed interest in the 20,000 AmeriCorps positions this first year. AmeriCorps is a model of new federalism: it lets local communities identify their own problems and the best solutions to them; it enlists the support and expertise of private sector firms like IBM and Timberland; and it provides federal funding without bureaucracy. AmeriCorps works because it's based on simple American values: opportunity, responsibility and community.

Service creates opportunity on many levels. It's based on the simple premise that if you work hard and play by the rules, you should have an opportunity to succeed. For working families just scraping by, AmeriCorps, like military service, offers a chance to learn valuable skills and earn money for college. For the inner-city child who might never have had the chance to sit down and talk with an adult who really listened, for the crime victim who is trying to piece together his life, or for the farmer who lost her livelihood to a

flood, service can help build a future. And for all of us, service presents the opportunity to help make our communities safer, smarter, and healthier.

At Georgetown, we all learned that while service provides opportunity, it also demands responsibility. Each of us is responsible for working hard, participating as active citizens in our democracy, and living by the rules and standards we set. I am proud that the university remains deeply committed to promoting service and that, every semester, countless Georgetown students find their way into public schools and hospitals and community centers. Community service remains as much a part of the Georgetown experience as studying for exams in the Pierce Reading room and rooting for the Hoya sports teams. That's the way it should be — and that's the special legacy we share as Georgetown alumni.

The challenges our nation faces are serious, in some cases dire, but in no case insurmountable — if we work together. In fulfilling our responsibilities as citizens, we reknit the fabric of America. The profound and indelible lesson learned through all types of service is that the problems of each of us are the problems of all of us. As it connects us to our communities and to the challenges that are part of them, service gives us hope. Service reminds us again and again that "this is our place."

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



Part IV

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

release



AmeriCorps National Service

CORPORATION

FOR NATIONAL

★ SERVICE

Release: 6/7/95

Contact: J. TOSCANO

202-606-5000 ext 277

AMERICORPS BRINGS IMPRESSIVE RETURN ON INVESTMENT TOP CONSERVATIVE ECONOMISTS, BUSINESS LEADERS, RELEASE ANALYSIS FEDERAL DOLLAR RETURNS \$1.60 TO \$2.60 IN BENEFITS, SENATORS TOLD

Eli J. Segal, Assistant to the President and CEO of the Corporation for National Service, in testimony to Senate VA/HUD Appropriations subcommittee today, revealed to the panel a first-of-its-kind econometric study by four noted conservative economists that found that there AmeriCorps national service provides an impressive return on investment for federal taxpayers.

The "Chicago school" economists found that, in the three representative programs analyzed, the return on every federal dollar the Corporation for National Service invests ranges from \$1.60 to \$2.60 in direct and demonstrable benefits, noting that "these *measurable* benefits underestimate the *total* benefits."

The landmark study was commissioned by the IBM Foundation, the Dana Foundation, and the Irvine Foundation -- three investors in the AmeriCorps public/private partnership.

Segal said, "These three foundations have invested significantly in AmeriCorps programs, and wanted to find out if they were getting their money's worth. This study is conservative in its methodology and conclusions -- but important in its implications. Simply put, AmeriCorps is a great investment -- a proven problem-solver that provides a great return on investment."

The panel of economists were charged with determining benefits and costs of three representative AmeriCorps programs selected by the foundations. The 49 page report is exceptionally detailed, relying on "rigorous, modern, scientific methods to evaluate direct benefits, and derive a simulation model that can be used to measure other AmeriCorps programs for effectiveness and value," according to economist Cyrus Gardner, of Kormendi/Gardner Partners.

"IBM expects a return on an investment, and bases its funding decisions on demonstrable results," said IBM executive Stan Litow. "We (and two other AmeriCorps partners) commissioned a team of leading economists to provide a conservative assessment of rock-hard, tangible benefits of the programs we invest in (Project First). The returns are in and the 'return' is considerable. This program works."

Citizens Bank CEO Larry Fish, at a briefing for reporters said, "bankers survive by investing in winners. It's clear that AmeriCorps would make a great private client -- and that it makes an extraordinary value for the taxpayer. That's why we've put our money into service, and this study -- rigorous enough to satisfy Wall Street's sharpest pencils -- reinforces what we've seen at the community level: the smart money is on AmeriCorps."

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

--more--

**PHOTOCOPY
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Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

AMERICORPS; page 2.

The AmeriCorps programs analyzed by the panel of economists are:

Project First, an AmeriCorps partnership with IBM operating in New York City, Atlanta, and Charlotte. 45 AmeriCorps members refit obsolete computer equipment donated by IBM, and working with retired IBM executives, train teachers and students to incorporate the equipment in the classroom.

AmeriCorps for Math and Literacy, an AmeriCorps partnership with the Charles A. Dana Foundation, operating at Austin, TX and Columbus, OH. 40 AmeriCorps members work with kindergarten through second grade "at risk" schoolchildren to strengthen reading, writing, and math skills.

East Bay Conservation Corps in Oakland, CA. Over one hundred AmeriCorps members work on projects ranging from planting trees to reduce erosion, to repairing dams; from counseling teenagers to providing immunization services; from nutritional counseling for the homeless to establishing teen centers.

The team of economists were charged with determining demonstrable and measurable benefits of AmeriCorps national service, benefits upon which there exists an agreement in the research community about evaluation methods — and the valuation of benefits to the community and to the individual.

Measurable community benefits include enhanced earnings of those being served, reductions in social costs due to the extent that children being served are less likely to be involved in crime or other activities that adversely affect the community; reduced welfare and special education costs; the value of improved educational performance; increased computer usage by students, and similar factors for which long-term benefits have been measured in longitudinal studies conducted over many years.

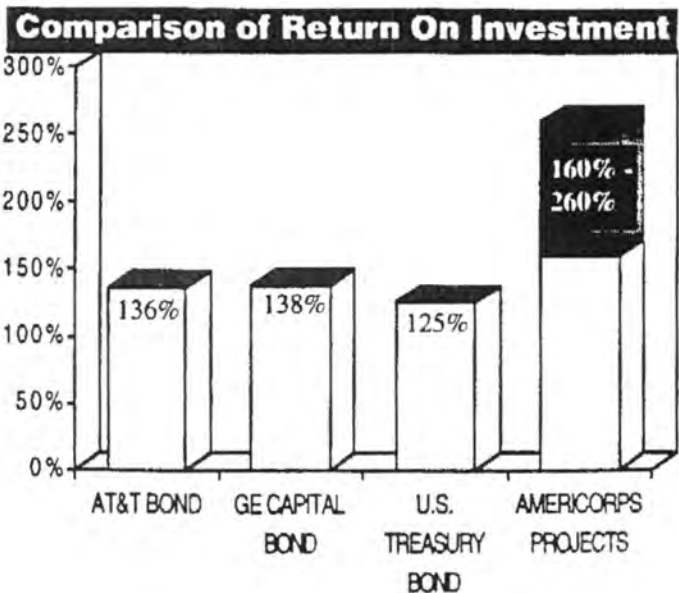
Measurable individual benefits include the value of continued education and the earned education award (\$4725 upon completion of a year of full time service); the living stipend (about \$600 per month); and a charitable contribution value due to performing service.

Benefits generally accepted as derivative of national service but not measured by this study due to lack of hard data include the strengthened sense of responsibility to one's community by those who serve, lessons in citizenship and civic values, recruitment and training of additional occasional (uncompensated) volunteers, training and other program-specific learned skills, and lessened tensions among groups who work together across racial, economic, and geographic lines, among others.

The economists who conducted the study are: George R. Neumann, Professor of Economics and Applied Mathematics at the University of Iowa; Roger C. Kormendi, Professor of Business Economics and Public Policy at the University of Michigan; Robert F. Tamura, Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Iowa; and Cyrus J. Gardner, of Kormendi/Gardner Partners.

AmeriCorps is a partnership between the private, public, and independent sectors, with 350 programs in 1100 communities across America. Most of the 20,000 AmeriCorps members serve with local and national charitable organizations, with priorities determined at the community level. Federal investment has leveraged strong private sector support from hundreds of the nation's largest corporations and countless smaller companies, who are attracted by the tough goals set and the outcomes measured by this unique program. The study provides a model for determining the return on private sector and taxpayer investment in other AmeriCorps programs.

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ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

LITTLE ROCK, AR
SUNDAY 223,663

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In Arkansas, AmeriCorps fits Clinton's vision

10247A1 FRONT PAGE

BY GRANT TENNILLE
Democrat-Gazette Staff Writer

AmeriCorps member Renee Spurlock is moving Holly Grove residents out of danger.

Approximately 60 homes in the east Arkansas town of 700 are inside the flood plain of the White River. During periods of heavy rain, water seeps into the ground floor of some homes. If a 100-year flood were to sweep down the White River, it would take most of those homes with it to the Mississippi.

So Spurlock, 35, a Holly Grove resident, is coordinating a program under the Federal Emergency Management Authority to buy the flood-threatened property and find the 135 residents of the area new lots on which to build.

She has spent the past 10 months educating landowners about the buyout program, surveying the area, researching ownership of every piece of property and finally going door-to-door answering questions, providing en-

couragement and soothing fears. "AmeriCorps has really helped this town," Spurlock said.

Spurlock is one of approximately 250 AmeriCorps volunteers in Arkansas working for dozens of private, nonprofit and government agencies across the state. Their accomplishments may be the best defense of President Clinton's modern-day Peace Corps.

Their jobs include feeding the hungry, teaching Little Rock Hispanics job skills, educating mi-

grant farm workers on the dangers of pesticides and helping rural fire departments find money for training.

On Sept. 21, 1993, Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act creating AmeriCorps. The creation of a national service corps had been a high priority for Clinton during the 1992 campaign.

Clinton envisioned a domestic version of the Peace Corps, created by President John F. Kennedy in the early '60s, a group that

would perform volunteer work in communities across the United States in exchange for government grants to pay for college education.

On Sept. 12, 1994, Clinton administered the oath, via satellite, to 20,000 AmeriCorps volunteers across the country.

Republicans in Congress, led by Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., attempted to kill the program earlier this month by slashing the 1996 budget for it.

See AMERICORPS, Page 11.

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Rex Scouren

7/20/95

Truman portrait 1947

one of few done while still in DC

Commission our artists

WHPSG. 7up

30 artist have written in asking to do Clintons

15 portfolios →

Don admired portrait of Pres

- This is the Pres' hse & he can do anything
he wants - no rules - laws -
regulations.

Pres Kennedy's - arms folded, legs
downward - seen in Nat
Spot

1st one of

Mrs. Butler Ed B Hays -

Might there shd be a
meeting of + in Wash'n
for East Room

only pair of \$1000 paid for
up front. funds.

Nex (2)

Meedoe Ross said to Sayre
now with WH + paint
my portrait

Toured hse My fr right place
to pose -

Got to bottom of stairs

Pres. you don't know what you're ly
for

Sayre. Mr Pres you don't know
what a gd pose is

TR put hand on banister -

Sayre said: Don't move.

Gov Washkans

Jackson
Wilson

3-4 TRR

TR.

That have been given

only govt purchase unlike Hoover.

5 yrs to finish John Quincy Adams
Painting = Stuart

Mrs. Monroe in Blue Room.

3 sittings for Bush
Houston
2 in Kansas.

Mrs B
2 in Kansas.
1 in Houston

State Dir, Dm
huge magnificent painting of Lincoln
Congress passed - w/ stipend Nat
grant had to pick one -

Robt Todd Lincoln liked this one
best & bought it

in back of Pres Bush - picture of peacemakers

Navy Regt called Jackie to see
y all to use the artist

Mrs Nixon v. robe
Andrew Wyeth's stick

Jackie - v. ghostly

ER - only painting she ever sat for
wrote in right upper corner
A trial ~~one~~ made pleasant by
the painter

People
Surprised
by high level
of skill

Grace Coolidge w/ sleeveless dress
+ collie (b/s) Robroy
paid by tourists

GW air room -

Same as a \$1 bill

and Mrs Tyler - 23 yrs old

Julia (first wife died)

Pres + Julia were sympathizers of South
w/ Civil War

After war Pres Johnson invited her
to a reception -

He cornered her + said
don't you think there should
be portraits of 1st Lady
next to his - showed up w/ portrait
John - put in attic -
Frank's wife found it

Mrs Grant so did lose her
in dream after War

Mamie Eisenhower pointed
by Ike's faint instructions

Carm asked Rex for advice

- have sketches done - you age
a lot

-

ended up w/ one of best parties
he got.

Truman '47

Eisenhower is ofc

Johnson is ofc

Nixon after scotj'n

Ford - after

public buildings—the “commissioner.” The job had been filled by an old Hayes friend, Colonel Thomas Lincoln Casey, before Hayes came to office, to accommodate a delicate circumstance. It will be remembered that because of adverse public opinion, President Grant removed his friend General Babcock from the position some ten days prior to the close of the administration. The new appointment, made by Grant in late February, was obviously the result of prior consultation of some sort with Hayes, the contested election notwithstanding. Appointed to West Point during the Mexican War, Casey had graduated first in the class of 1852, and immediately entered the Army Corps of Engineers. He had worked on various public building projects through the years. Besides his engineering expertise, he was gentle and affable, a member of an old New England family.

In several of his appointments, Hayes was careful to select blacks, to attest his goodwill toward them. Frederick Douglass was made marshal of the District of Columbia. Even as Douglass served in this honored position as master of ceremonies of the city, as well as at the Capitol and the White House, he and others complained that he was not asked to make the introductions in the receiving line at the President's receptions. Hayes was accused of withholding that honor from the black man. This was not completely fair, for the marshal had not served as announcer at the White House for 20 years. Major French had so enjoyed making the introductions while he was marshal in the '50s that he refused to surrender the privilege when he became public buildings commissioner, and the commissioners since him had continued in the position. Casey could have followed naturally, but since the question did arise, Hayes decided to avoid a racial controversy. He gave the duty to his son Webb, which made receiving more a family affair. In any case, he had no intention of bringing Frederick Douglass into White House ceremonies, although he was invited to introduce the Negro singers when they performed in the East Room in November 1878.¹⁵

Portraits

Since President Hayes had the private resources to run the White House as he chose, he and his wife wanted it to be as abundant as their home in Ohio. They collected staff which, under able management, could maintain this standard. Modest redecoration projects updated the interiors, and new plantings improved the grounds. Their antiquarian interests led them to emphasize the history of the mansion, especially in the state rooms, which were open to the public.

Valentino Melah left soon after the Grants. In March 1877 he was replaced as steward of the White House by John A. Simms, a black man who had previously been a steward in the Navy Department. Although Simms's experience and ability were equal to those of his predecessors, his task had been proportionately reduced with the appointment of a separate steward for the office. Simms, his wife, and their children moved into an apartment in the southward ell of the west wing, near the present Oval Office.

After two years' service Simms resigned. The job had proved too much for him, and his combination of lax business habits and extravagance made Hayes eager to see him go. On May 1, 1879, the President wrote Simms a brief but favorable recommendation and replaced him at once with Billy Crump, who added responsibility for the house to his duties as office steward. This arrangement was meant to be temporary, but Crump was so successful as house steward that he remained. He managed the domestic staff, served as purchasing agent, and supervised the day-to-day functioning of the house. For big entertainments, he, like his predecessors, turned to caterers, in this case *Ida Demonet & Sons* and *Chef Louis Chapanis*.¹⁶

Hayes employed from 12 to 14 house servants during his four years. Some had been at the White House under Grant, and some were new employees; four, all blacks, had worked for the Hayeses in Ohio. The eldest of these was Aunt Clara, a former slave who had been freed by the family of Mrs. Hayes. Isaiah Lancaster, the President's valet, had been employed when Hayes was governor of Ohio.

Of the Hayes family servants, none was closer to the presidential family than Winnie Monroe and her daughter Mary. Winnie Monroe, a widow, had worked in the Ohio household for many years as nurse to the children and as cook. Her daughter was Mrs. Hayes's maid. Though Mrs. Hayes often found the cook intolerable, with her moods and tantrums, the children adored her. She kept the household in its place with her comments on its newly exalted state, styling herself the "first colored lady of the land." The President added \$20 from his own pocket to her government salary of \$30 per month. Winnie Monroe still cooked for the family when they ate privately.¹⁷

The longtime custom of taking servants' salaries from other funds of the public buildings commissioner's office ended, at least temporarily, with Hayes. He believed this a poor practice, and ordered that the house servants no longer be disguised in the records as "laborers" or "clerks." Now Jerry Smith was listed in the commissioner's books as "House Servant," *Telemechus Ford* as "Laborer and House Servant," and so on.

Winnie Monroe's title was changed from laborer to cook. Though the domestic servants received federal salaries, they sometimes got money from Hayes as well. The President's private account books list occasional cash disbursements to various servants, probably for personal services.¹⁸

The Hayeses formed a large and habitually active household. Always resident at the White House were the parents and three of the five children. Probably eight servants lived in, with five others in the house only when they were on duty. There were usually 12 secretaries and clerks in the President's office; ten men worked in the garden and greenhouse. In addition, the Hayeses had numerous guests. At least 45 people could be found at the White House every day, not including tourists or business callers.

No amount of vigilance on the part of Tommy Pendel or the plainclothes police could curb the destruction wrought by visitors who called between ten and two on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Tassels, fringe, inkwells, beads and pendants from the chandeliers, and bits and pieces of nearly everything were cut out and carried off. "Souvenir hunters," wrote Birch Hayes, "were the bane of our lives." An average of 2,000 per day passed through the East Room during the Centennial year of 1876 and while the flow subsided somewhat afterward, the crowds were still apparently very large. The scavenging did not take place only in the East Room, which anybody could visit during the appropriate hours. The parlors and the State Dining Room suffered equally from the ravages of perhaps a hundred preferred callers presenting themselves daily with written passes. Accordingly, the White House had a slightly run-down look that even the best daily maintenance could not erase. Worn spots appeared in the carpeting, holes in the curtains, and smudges on the wallpaper.¹⁹

Workmen were at the White House nearly all the time patching and painting. In the course of this, Hayes sent them upstairs to carry out some improvements which he paid for himself. In the spring of 1878 Miss Grundy described the family quarters rather fully. Mrs. Hayes had reused the old carpeting from the East Room in the west hall upstairs; tattered curtains had been reversed; slipcovers, antimacassars, and shawls covered worn upholstery. Such details seem to have fascinated the public. Living conditions were crowded, yet the rooms were light and airy and home-like, reflecting the warm and friendly family circle.

Neither the President nor Mrs. Hayes shared Mrs. Grant's affection for the fashionable "art" decorations of the '70s, the arrangements of seashells, the tydie-bows on the backs of chairs, the bouquets of pampas grass and cattails in Japanese vases. Their White House interiors were

unadorned in this sense, but adequately furnished and up to date. The bedroom used by the President and Mrs. Hayes, for example, contained a suite made of imitation bamboo purchased by Mrs. Grant in 1875. The walls were painted in distemper paint, a field of robin's-egg blue, with panels superimposed in gray and pink.

The State Bedroom was the next room going east from the President's bedroom. Miss Grundy was shown this by Hayes himself, and she marveled at the gilt coronet of the bed now draped in crimson satin and lace. "I never slept in it," Hayes assured her. Normally the door between this room and the oval library was kept open. The presence of beds in sitting rooms was not yet considered strange, and in fashionable houses this gave a "colonial" effect.

Small children once again called the White House home. Fanny's "baby-houses," or doll houses, were in the big hallway upstairs. She and her brother Scott were tutored in a schoolroom improvised from the north corridor. It included the window from which Lincoln and other Presidents had addressed crowds on the lawn below. On the schoolroom wall hung a mammoth butterfly, a gift to Fanny from the painter Albert Bierstadt. He had created it before her eyes at the White House by pressing a mixture of paints in a piece of folded paper, then opening the paper flat. Fanny's room had a large Queen Anne bedroom suite, lacquered jet black, which had been designed for her by one of the President's cousins, William Rutherford Mead, partner in the youthful Manhattan architectural firm of McKim, Mead, & Bigelow. As McKim, Mead, & White the firm would transform the White House 20 years later for Theodore Roosevelt.²⁰

The engineers still talked of building a new mansion, but President and Mrs. Hayes were delighted with what they had. "I would not wish to exchange this for any other," Mrs. Hayes told Miss Grundy. "I think it beautiful . . . I love this house for the associations that no other could have."²¹ As soon as she became First Lady, Mrs. Hayes consulted Librarian of Congress A. R. Spofford about how to make the White House interiors better evoke their history, thus beginning a trend that has continued. She and Spofford decided to accelerate the collection of presidential portraits for the East Room, so that visitors might eventually enjoy a full parade of the nation's chief executives. The collection had been started in 1857 when George P. A. Healy had been commissioned to produce presidential portraits for the White House. Only six were finished when the Civil War interrupted the project, and French had dispatched them all to the attic unframed, to lie in dust until Mrs. Patterson brought them downstairs in the spring of 1867. Other portraits had

come to the White House piecemeal, as when President Grant had commissioned a portrait of Lincoln.²²

No one before Mrs. Hayes seems to have had a desire to collect pictures of the past First Ladies. Presidents' wives had hung their portraits usually in the Red Room, but had taken them away when the administration was over. Mrs. Grant figured in the big family portrait, which she had left in the Red Room. Mrs. Hayes's interest probably was inspired by the portrait of the second Mrs. John Tyler. When it was brought to the White House by Mrs. Tyler in 1870, General Michler had not known what to do with it, and Mrs. Grant had it hung in the upstairs corridor, to save Mrs. Tyler's feelings.²³

Mrs. Hayes decided to devote herself to collecting portraits of former First Ladies for the White House. The President was delighted with the idea. They wanted original portraits, but in the absence of antiques they were willing to settle for copies. Spofford agreed to secure government funding through the Library of Congress. He and the Joint Committee on the Library obtained an appropriation in 1878 for "The Gallery of Ex-Presidents," to hang in the East Room. Much work had to be done. In addition to the six Healy portraits, John Quincy Adams, Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Fillmore, and Pierce, there were only the Stuart portrait of Washington, the oldest and most revered relic in the White House, and Lincoln's portrait by William Cogswell. Counting that of Hayes, 11 presidential portraits were yet to be acquired.

Spofford and the Hayeses hoped to begin by securing a likeness of John Adams, the second President and the first to live in the White House. While in Boston in August 1878, Spofford visited the village of Quincy to call on Charles Francis Adams. At the old Adams home the portrait of John Adams by Stuart surveyed a parlor filled with the memorabilia of two Presidents. Adams insisted that the picture was where it belonged.

While still in Boston, Spofford turned to Jefferson's descendants: "I endeavored to secure an original Stuart in possession of T. Jefferson Coolidge, Esq.," he wrote to the President, "but he would not part with it." So he called on the Boston painter Edgar Parker, a skillful copier of early American paintings, particularly Stuarts. Parker produced a copy of the Adams portrait at Quincy, which Spofford assured Hayes "is pronounced by the family to be an excellent copy of the original." He also copied two of Coolidge's Stuart portraits, one of Jefferson and one of Madison.²⁴

But the Hayeses were in a hurry to have their gallery of ex-Presidents. Spofford's efforts took too long. The painter E. F. Andrews of Ohio, a friend of the Hayeses', told them that he would like to produce

new pictures for the gallery, large and handsome ones on a scale suited to the East Room. He had painted a portrait of Hayes as a candidate so pleasing to the family that it was brought to the White House and hung in the second floor hall. He was also married to Billy Rogers' sister.²⁵

Andrews was not hired outright to paint portraits of the missing Presidents, but he easily obtained employment as instructor at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and proceeded to execute some pictures for the White House at the Corcoran Studio, hoping to sell them to the President. Perhaps to please Mrs. Hayes, he first produced a large portrait of Martha Washington, which hangs today in the East Room as the companion to the Stuart portrait of George Washington. This was not a copy, for no full-length portrait of Mrs. Washington had previously been painted. Andrews produced a "modern" version of a Stuart, basing the robust—indeed rosy—face more or less upon historical portraits of Mrs. Washington in middle life; Emily Platt, the President's niece, posed for the body. Mrs. Washington's dress was colonial in style, with a train, but not historically accurate. Her left hand rests on a gilt chair in the Louis XVI revival mode of the 1870s.

The joint committee was unimpressed by this modern meditation on Stuart, and its price of \$3,000 compared unfavorably to the \$160 they paid for each of the copies by Parker. Forced into some politicking to have her way, Mrs. Hayes held a dinner during the winter of 1880, inviting the committee and other influential congressmen. Crook recalled how after dinner she led them to the East Room, where the picture had been exhibited for several months on an easel, and "proffered her request with a smile from bright and pretty eyes."²⁶

A second meditation on canvas, equally large and expensive, was a voluptuous representation of Dolley Madison in bright yellow, the face faintly suggesting Stuart's portrait of her. The committee put its foot down at this point, and the picture eventually found its way into the Cosmos Club in Washington, where it still hangs. Andrews continued to paint pictures for the White House collection, but was careful to please the committee. In the summer of 1879 he copied portraits of William Henry Harrison, Andrew Jackson, and Zachary Taylor. While he wished to paint General Grant, the President and Spofford, like the committee, preferred portraits or copies of portraits which had been executed in the White House while the subject was President. Such a portrait of Grant had been painted by the Washington artist Henry Ulke in 1875. This was purchased in 1879 for \$800 and hung in the East Room.²⁷

Leaving the Andrews portrait of himself upstairs, Hayes commissioned a large and dignified portrait from Carl Brown and hung it over

the mantel in the west end of the State Dining Room in the spring of 1878. In all Hayes acquired seven portraits, not counting the two of himself, which he owned, bringing the gallery collection to 14. Only four were lacking to complete it. He would override his earlier preference, having his own official portrait painted in Ohio after his retirement.²⁸

The President and Mrs. Hayes initiated the first significant art collecting at the White House. Collecting was to continue after they left, with Andrews the chief beneficiary. He became highly successful as the director of the art school at the Corcoran Gallery, and painted ever bigger pictures for the East Room. No single fee would approach the \$3,000 he was paid for Martha Washington, yet the White House remained for some years a steady customer.

Landscape

President and Mrs. Hayes shared a great affection for gardening. Some of the trees they ordered still live, although the Ohio buckeye tree Hayes planted in 1878 on the edge of the north driveway blew down in a storm nearly 40 years later. They had been interested in the development of the groves and flower gardens at their Ohio estate, and though they found extensive gardening already established at the White House, they made changes, participating personally in the planning.²⁹

The grounds surrounding the White House had been only the occasional beneficiaries of presidential interest. As a result they had gradually assumed an institutional look. Along the south side of the house parterres filled the area between the building and the driveway; protected from horses and carriages by a lacy wire fence, they had gravel paths that wound among beds of roses bordered by dense boxwood hedges. They changed very little from year to year. More elaborate parterres had been planted on the north side in 1874, but they had been simplified to such an extent by the time of Hayes that the display was no longer as handsome as it had been. Hayes ordered it plowed up and planted in grass. By 1878 the fenced area between the two arms of the north driveway had been given over largely to lawn and shrubbery, with the round pool remaining in the center. During the summers tropical plants were brought from the greenhouse and arranged around the pool, a custom begun by Hayes and carried on for many years.³⁰

The President got started on his gardening program soon after moving to the White House. On May 1, 1877, he appointed Henry Pfister of Cincinnati as the head gardener to replace James Nokes, who had been gardener for some years but had never played an aggressive role.

of Abraham Lincoln was a difficult
Lincolns had been the object of
no had lived in the White House,
fits, of his being heppedecked, were
times appeared in print. Such pub-

them simply by being themselves.
ains of Tennessee," said Martha
expected of us."²⁷ Although they
White House often imposed unfair
pted their duties. They followed
their course, they were sustained

Common Man

inent politician since the early
9, the year of Jackson's inaugura-
of Greenville, Tennessee. In the
e legislator, then state senator.
ater governor of his state and at
e in 1857.

phy had changed little from the
l been inspired by the idea of an
cs had sharpened his oratorical
em. At the outbreak of the war
ing in the Senate when his state
n governor of occupied Tennes-
erefore an experimental ground
n that Johnson attracted as gov-
flamboyant speeches, passion-
rs all over the North. In addi-
hen the time came to select a
n campaign of 1864, the Demo-

A "national calamity," to use
n to the Presidency.²⁸

inistration was the effort of the
tween him and the self-styled
lt up over the balance of 1865
nfrontation. Johnson had inher-
icals because he had continued

Lincoln's conservatism, adopting the idea that secession was merely a rebellion, that it had been put down, and that the South should be returned to full participation in the government. The Radicals, on the other hand, calling secession treason, sought sweeping federal programs for the political, social, and economic transformation of the South.

Johnson was not always wise in his treatment of his enemies, and enough admirers seem always to have been at hand to convince him he was right. On the night of Washington's Birthday in 1866, a great number of pro-Johnson people marched to the White House from the Capitol, where they had been witnessing the proceedings of an inflamed Congress. Suddenly the iron gates were opened to admit them to the north lawn, where they crowded quietly, looking at the gaslit White House. The north doors flew open to reveal President Johnson. To wild cheering and huzzahs, he crossed the driveway that passed beneath the north portico and mounted the high podium which forms the base for the four outer columns. Swept up in the enthusiasm of his audience, he drifted into an impromptu oration. As his excitement built, he became less controlled, accusing the Congress of trying to assassinate him and start a second rebellion. At first he mentioned no names, but he was softened by the crowd's pleading to tell them who, and began to list the Radicals one by one, Sumner, Stevens, and the rest.²⁹

The oration drew the President and the Radicals into open and bitter warfare. While a clash would surely have come anyway, Johnson's intemperate tongue hastened it and caused the "middle ground" Republicans to abandon him. By spring the President's vetoes of the Radical acts were being overridden in the Congress.

A Face-lift for the White House

Amid the political tribulations of Andrew Johnson's single abbreviated term, he found time to make many changes at the White House. Under Martha Patterson's direction, extensive remodeling and redeco-rating took place between the summer of 1866 and the spring of 1867. Work on that scale had not been carried out since President Pierce's remodeling in 1853. The Johnsons remained in residence during the renovation, stoically enduring the plaster dust, the noise, and the surrender of privacy to some 30 workmen.

Mrs. Patterson proved an efficient manager and an exacting though cheerful taskmaster. She was anxious to give no cause for criticism, such as Mrs. Lincoln had aroused. Normally French would have supervised all the work in his capacity as public buildings commissioner, but while

some of the initial details were given to him, Mrs. Patterson soon took over, keeping most of the accounts largely herself and approving everything personally. French was officious and had enemies in the Congress; she wanted a lieutenant who was both obedient and obscure. To French's great annoyance she appointed Colonel J. A. Stevenson, an "Upholsterer and Decorator by profession," as her foreman and adviser. They worked well together.³⁰

The President's daughter did most of her business in Washington, primarily with William A. Mitchell, but also patronizing the Alexander firm. She undertook to avoid overspending the \$30,000 appropriation, which recent history had shown could prove embarrassing. Worn paths or stained places were cut out of the carpeting in the state rooms. The remaining carpeting was pulled up strip by strip and taken in pushcarts to the sunny fields to the south of the White House, there to be beaten free of dust and washed with soap and sun dried. Carried back to the White House, the strips were fitted to the smaller rooms the public never saw. Similar renovations were made to the curtains, where they, or portions of them, could be reused.

It is likely that the White House had never had such a cleaning before. No room went untouched. Even the attic, long the depository for castoffs, was emptied, scrubbed down, and whitewashed before being refilled with storage. Oilcloths on the floors, matting, and carpeting, which in an ordinary house might be left from year to year and simply covered with new material, were all pulled up and the raw wood floors beneath scrubbed pale with lye water.

As the jobbers unloaded new lace curtains, hundreds of yards of trimmings, and rolls of new carpeting, and as the painters brushed their rich "encaustic" colors on the walls and gilt-frosted the woodwork, Mrs. Patterson inspected the physical condition of the house. She was displeased by what she found belowstairs in the kitchen, pantries, and servants' quarters. The vast basement was rat-infested, and old whitewash flaked from the walls. Some of the wood floors had collapsed onto the brick pavers below them. The pavers had been laid in the 1790s and reused after the fire. Cupboards had been built along the walls at the west end of the vaulted corridor.³¹

The wings that ran east and west from the White House still served as extensions of the basement level. Because the west wing supported the wooden conservatory above, it had been kept in better order than the wing on the east. There was still an icehouse in the west wing, although it was in disuse and deep in water. Monroe's stable, in the south part of the ell, had been converted to storerooms. The east wing was shabby, its

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ceilings sagging or fallen; water ran onto the brick floors during even the lightest rain. The lunette windows just above grade on the north side had broken panes and looked snaggle-toothed, their arches cracked and sag- ging. Years of hard use by the gardener as toolhouse, potting shed, and as a place for compost storage had taken a heavy toll.

Mrs. Patterson realized that the wings were unhealthful for those who had to use them. First she attempted an emergency repair by replacing the copper roofs. This might have worked a decade earlier, but deterioration had advanced too far. French asked the opinion of Alfred B. Mullett, supervising architect of the Treasury, who recom- mended demolition of the east wing. By the middle of June 1866 its walls had been pulled down and hauled away and its foundation covered over with topsoil.³²

The east side of the house, once secluded from public view, became highly visible, especially because in the same year a street—eventually named East Executive Avenue—was cut through between the Treasury and the White House. In contrast to the mighty west portico of the Treasury, which stood across the new street from it, the side of the White House seemed small and even insignificant, a situation corrected by Mullett with a formal east entrance to the grounds, replacing the old southeast gate, which had been torn down. His solution was a one-story colonnade of stone, its flat roof an ample balcony that opened off the East Room. This proved convenient and pleasant, but since the columned porch below led into the basement, it was more to look at than to use. The ground rose from the new street to the colonnade in a gentle slope, and a broad pedestrian walk with gradual steps linked the porch and the new iron gates.³³

Repairs on the west wing, also recommended by Mullett, were inter- rupted early in the morning of January 18, 1867, when the conservatory atop it was destroyed by fire. How it started was never fully established, although it probably broke out in one of the soot-filled flues of the warm- air heating system. The losses were heavy: lime trees, lemon trees, oleanders in tubs; hundreds of varieties of small flowering plants in pots, along with the beautiful rose trees and palms. Among the latter was the famous sago palm which had belonged to George Washington and may have been brought to the White House by Andrew Jackson.

The ruins were cleared away before the close of winter so that con- struction of a new conservatory could begin as early in spring as possible. Because of damage from the fire, the entire west wing roof was removed and rebuilt stronger and with better support. The new conservatory was not the "fireproof" iron-frame glasshouse one might have expected. An

iron skeleton had proved too expensive, so the sash that held the glass was all of wood, as it had been in the original conservatory. Only a few iron structural members were used.³⁴

Some five weeks before the conservatory burned, Mrs. Patterson's redecorating of the interior of the White House was nearly finished. For the New Year's reception of 1867 she had opened the three parlors for the first time, to general acclaim. The bright, intricately patterned wallpapers were gone; tall "French panels," or frames, had been created on the walls with gilt moldings. Silk-like wallpapers were used inside the long rectangles, with the other surfaces painted various dark Pompeiian colors, in the French *néo-grec* mode then making its first appearance in the United States.

The new look Mrs. Patterson had achieved was more controlled and more orderly than the florid French Antique style that had dominated these rooms from James K. Polk's time to Abraham Lincoln's. The redecorated state parlors were darker and less theatrically "historical." Rather than being reflected from every surface, the gaslight glowed on some and was absorbed by others.³⁵

Mrs. Patterson had an interest in history. In the attic she came across a forgotten series of portraits commissioned by the Congress in 1857 from the painter George P. A. Healy as decoration for the White House. They depicted John Quincy Adams, Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Fillmore, and Pierce. They had been stored unframed by French sometime prior to 1864. When Mrs. Patterson showed her father the pictures, he was delighted, and through French secured an appropriation of \$300 each for gilt frames. The pictures, some bust portraits, some full length, were hung in the transverse hall on the state floor, outside the state parlors. President Johnson took great pleasure in escorting his guests through the hall and discoursing on the characters and accomplishments of his predecessors. During the spring of 1867 the East Room was opened. Mrs. Patterson's renovations were finally complete.³⁶

The Steward William Slade

Some important changes in the operation of the White House naturally accompanied so ambitious a program of renovation. Mrs. Patterson scrutinized the ways the parties and public receptions were organized and she asked some practical questions about the staffing of the house.

Johnson held relatively few dinners until the last year of his administration. But large receptions were frequent, and the custom of Thursday drawing rooms for women was continued. Generally speaking,

Flourishes

The President's House was first seriously regarded as "historical" in the time of General Grant. Visitors to the national capital placed it high on their lists of sights to see, and guidebooks told of its past. Weekdays from ten until three the East Room could be viewed by anyone who called at the north door. Admission to the state parlors could be procured with a note provided by a congressman or a senator.¹

Visitors in the 1870s liked to hear about how Abigail Adams had hung her wash in the East Room; how Jefferson had received the Indian chiefs; how Jackson had opened his doors to boisterous democratic throngs; how Dolley Madison had carried Washington's portrait away the day the British burned the White House. It was not such a distant past. A man who reached 50 in the year 1870 had memories of the days when General Jackson had been President. Only 77 years had passed since the laying of the cornerstone.

To strengthen the everyday visitor's sense of history, the Grants opened Andrew Johnson's gallery of presidential portraits. Displayed in the transverse hall, behind the glass screen, the series began with the Stuart portrait of George Washington; it ended with a portrait of Abraham Lincoln commissioned by Grant in 1869 from William Cogswell of Chicago, who had painted the Grant family group that hung in the Red Room. In 1874, when the redecoration of the East Room was finished, the pictures were moved there, to keep the public out of the transverse hall.

The house itself testified to its age. The wooden inner structure

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 17, 1995

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT UNVEILING OF BUSH PORTRAIT

The East Room

10:19 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Breeden, for your kind remarks and for your essential work on behalf of the White House and the history of this country.

We're delighted to be here with President and Mrs. Bush today, and Vice President and Mrs. Quayle, all the members and former members of Congress, the members of the Bush administration, and friends of George and Barbara Bush, and especially the family members. We welcome you all here to the White House.

It's impossible to live in this wonderful old place without becoming incredibly attached to it -- to the history of our country and to what each and every one of these rooms represent. In a way, I think every family who has ever lived here has become more and more a part of our country's history, just for the privilege of sleeping under this roof at night. And so, perhaps the most important thing I can say to President and Mrs. Bush today is, welcome home. We're glad to have you back.

I want to say, too, that we thought that we ought to have this ceremony in the East Room. This has always been the people's room. In the 19th century it used to get so crowded at receptions that one of the windows over here was turned into a door so people could get out if they couldn't bear the crowds anymore. There are so many here today, perhaps we should have done it again. But we thought the air-conditioning made it advisable for us to all stay put.

Many of you know that it was in this room that Abigail Adams used to dry the family laundry when the room was nothing more than a brick shell. You may not know that the great explorer, Meriwether Lewis, set up camp here, surrounded by canvas tarps, books and hunting rifles in the day when he was Thomas Jefferson's secretary. John Quincy Adams frequently would come here to watch the sun rise after he finished his early morning swim in the

Potomac. That also is something we're considering taking up if the heat wave doesn't break. (Laughter.)

The portraits that we add here today celebrate another chapter to our rich history, and particularly to the rich history of the East Room where they will remain for a few days before they are properly hung. I managed to get a glimpse of these portraits and I must admit that I think the artist did a wonderful job, and we're all in his debt. But I also want to say, President Bush, if I look half as good as you do when I leave office, I'll be a happy man. (Laughter.)

I want to again compliment Herbert Abrams, the artist. He also painted the portrait of President Carter. So, once again, President Bush has set another outstanding example of bipartisanship.

These portraits, as has already been said, will be seen by millions of Americans who visit here, reminding them of what these two great Americans stood for, and for what they have done to strengthen our country. The portraits in the White House are more than likenesses. They tell the story of the promise of one American life, and in so doing, the promise of all American life. They offer a lesson, an example, a challenge for every American to live up to the responsibilities of citizenship.

As Americans look for ways to come together to deal with the challenges we face today, they can do well in looking at the lives of President and Mrs. Bush. They have been guided by the basic American values and virtues of honesty, compassion, civility, responsibility and optimism. They have passed these values on to their family and on to our American family as well. And for that we should all be profoundly grateful.

Mrs. Bush's portrait will hang adjacent to the Vermeil Room on the ground-floor corridor, taking her place in history in the line of America's first ladies. One roll of the First Lady is to open the doors to the White House. Mrs. Bush will be in the hearts of Americans forever for the gracious way in which she opened so many doors not just to this house, but to a world of endless possibility through reading. Her campaign for literacy exemplified our country's great spirit of volunteerism, and our primary concern for the potential of every individual American.

Her life of helping others has brought recognition to all those Americans, especially to American women, who have seen unmet needs in their communities and reached out to meet them. We cannot thank her enough.

President Bush's portrait will hang out here in the Grand Foyer, across from the portrait of President Franklin Roosevelt, the Commander in Chief, he served in World War II. It will stand as a reminder of George Bush's basic integrity and decency, and of his entire adult lifetime devoted to public service. Most of all,

it will stand as a testimony to a leader who helped Americans move forward toward common ground on many fronts. We see this clearly in the causes George Bush led us in as President -- causes that aimed at improving the lives not just of Republicans, but of all Americans.

He made education a national priority when he hosted the Education Summit in 1989, something I will never forget and always be especially personally grateful for, because he understood that a solid education is essential to every American's ability to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

He led us to a new dedication to service, and extolled the real heroes in America -- the ordinary Americans who every day go about solving the problems of this country in courageous, brave, and quiet manners. The Points of Light Initiative held up the best in America, reminded us of what we can do when we truly work together. And I can say that it was the one thing that he did that he personally asked me to continue when I took this office, and I was honored to do because it was so important and it remains important to the United States today.

He signed the Americans With Disabilities Act, something that has now acquired broad support among people of all parties and all walks of life, and which has made a real difference to the quality of life of Americans who are now making larger contributions to the rest of us. And he supported and signed the Clean Air Act, which is terribly important today in preserving the quality of American life.

He also led our nation and the world in the Gulf War Alliance, in an example of contributions and cooperations in the aftermath of the Cold War that I believe will long be followed.

Finally, since he has left this office, he has continued to be an active and aggressive citizen for what he believed in. He worked here to help us to pass NAFTA, something for which I am profoundly grateful. And just the other day, he earned the gratitude of all Americans who believe in law and order and believe in civil citizenship when he defended the honor and reputation of law-abiding law enforcement officers and government employees. For all these things, all Americans should be grateful to George Bush.

For President and Mrs. Bush, love of country and service to it have always meant the same thing. We honor them both today for their leadership, their character and their concern for their fellow citizens.

On November 2, 1800, the day after his very first night in the White House, John Adams wrote to his wife, "I pray heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house and on all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof." In the case of George Bush, John Adams' prayers were surely met.

It is my great honor and pleasure now to unveil the official portraits of President and Mrs. Bush. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT BUSH: Thank you very, very much. Thank you all. (Applause.) Thank you. And thank you, President Clinton, for those overly generous words as kind assessment of what I and so many here in this room tried to do.

Frankly, I needed those kind words. (Laughter.) I told some friends last night that I'd been going through a bit of an identity crisis, highlighted when Barbara was having her hair done in January. Eddie, her accomplished hairdresser, said, I can hardly believe it, I can hardly believe it. And Barbara said, what is it, Eddie? He said, I can hardly believe I'm doing the hair of the mother of the Governor of Texas. (Laughter.) Barbara said, what about the wife of the former President of the United States? Eddie goes, well, there's that, too. (Laughter.)

So I can't tell you, Mr. President, how much I appreciate your wonderfully kind words. (Applause.) And to Mrs. Clinton, thank you for this superb hospitality. I know I speak confidently for everybody in this room when I thank you for the generosity of your time and of the way this matter here has been set up. To Ann Stock in the Social Office; to the White House Historical Association; and to everyone else, the Bush family -- and again, I confidently speak for all -- are very grateful to you for letting us come and for arranging this warm ceremony.

I look around, and I should not speak for the dean of the Diplomatic Corps, my dear friend, Prince Bandar, but he is here, and I am honored that he took the time to join us here today.

It's hot out, and I've got to be careful about this nostalgic beat, but I see the Photo Dogs -- I miss them. (Laughter.) And I've got to be careful, but as I look around and see Helen and Terry, Mick, and Trudy and Ann, I even miss you -- and I never thought I'd say that again. (Laughter and applause.) I honestly do.

And so I really -- my role here is simply to say thank you, and to say how much, of course, we enjoyed living here and what a joy it is to see the White House staff. I'm asked, what do you miss about Washington, and I say not a lot, frankly. But I miss the White House staff and the people that the Clintons know do so much to make this not just the people's house, but the home for the people that are privileged to live here. And so I thank them. And I thank all of you for turning out today for what, for Barbara and me, is a most nostalgic, wonderful occasion.

And, Herb, I feel very differently than Lyndon Johnson. (Laughter.) Lyndon looked at his first portrait, and he said, that's the ugliest thing I ever saw. (Laughter.) So I'm inclined to think it's pretty darn good. And to you, thank you, and I know

Barbara feels the same way. You're wonderful, and we appreciate your work so much, sir. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

10:31 A.M. EDT

Picture Perfect Day for Bushes at White House

By Ann Devroy
Washington Post Staff Writer

If more than two years out of office have not dissipated all the enmity and regrets of the final weeks of the Bush presidency, it was well-hidden yesterday as the men and women of the Bush White House returned there to hear the president (to them, George Bush) warmly saluted by the man who defeated him.

Bush Cabinet members, political aides, friends and family gathered in the East Room for the unveiling of the official portraits of the former president and first lady Barbara Bush by artist Herbert Abrams. Sporting his signature lopsided grin, Bush described his portrait as "pretty darn good."

These portrait ceremonies are a recent addition to White House tradition, begun by Jimmy Carter when he invited the Republican he defeated, Gerald R. Ford, to the White House to see his portrait unveiled. Ronald Reagan did not do the same for Carter, whose portrait was hung without ceremony in 1983. But Bush picked up the gesture, after inheriting the White House from Reagan, and Clinton continued. The Bush portraits will remain in the East Room for a month, on view by tours. Then the president's portrait will be formally hung in the Grand Foyer on the state floor of the White House, and the first lady's in the main hallway near the Verméil Room.

In a gracious salute, Clinton underscored some of the themes of Bush's four years in office—volunteerism, public service and education—on which the two share common, although not identical ground. Bush's portrait, Clinton said, "will stand as a reminder of George Bush's basic integrity and decency and of his entire adult lifetime devoted to public service."

Clinton saluted Bush not only for his leadership of the Persian Gulf War, the military triumph for which the president will perhaps be best remembered, but also for some of the Bush domestic agenda that Clinton, as a candidate, rarely acknowledged.

Clinton cited the Bush Points of Light program, the foundation that recognized outstanding volunteer groups and exemplified one of the Bush exhortations that all Americans should volunteer. Clinton retained the quasi-governmental board that operates the program but put forward his own version of service: AmeriCorps, the government program that pays some college costs for select young people who work in community service jobs. Without mentioning assaults by congressional Republicans, Clinton also saluted Bush for supporting the Americans With Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act, the two major pieces of domestic legislation bearing Bush's signature.

If Clinton was formal, Bush was Bush.

Known for his graciousness to White House workers—the cooks, housekeepers, plumbers and others who keep the place going—the former president singled them out. "My role here is simply to say thank you and to say how much, of course, we enjoyed living here and what a joy it is to see the White House staff. I'm asked, 'What do you miss about Washington?' And I say, 'Not a lot, frankly.' But I miss the White House staff," he said. Those are the people, he said, who make the White House "not just the people's house, but home for the people who are privileged to live here."

In the audience were many of the president's top aides: Former vice president Dan Quayle, who toyed with seeking the White House this year and then decided against it. Former defense secretary Richard B. Cheney, who also toyed with pursuing

the White House. Gen. Colin L. Powell, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who may or may not seek the presidency.

Former White House chief of staff John H. Sununu, ejected in the final year of the administration, was there, as was former press secretary Marlin Fitzwater, whose book chronicling his time in the Reagan and Bush White Houses is due out this fall.

Also present were 16 others who served in the Bush Cabinet. And there were a few who were pushed out of the inner circle—like Richard Darman, the budget chief conservatives love to hate. The Bushes' big fund-raiser friends, Robert A. Mosbacher and Thomas "Lud" Ashley, also were there. As was the president's lead Secret Service agent and Rose Zamaria, whose moment of fame came in 1992 when Bush was asked in a debate to name the women who helped him run the government. He named Zamaria, a woman known only to White House insiders, for whom she doled out presidential trinkets and kept track of office administration.

As if to remind his audience that not all has changed with him since he left office, Bush agreeably delivered one of the non sequiturs for which he became famous during his term. "It's hot out and I've got to be careful about this nostalgic beat," he said. That, apparently, was a reference to the White House press corps, particularly the photographers, whom Bush always called "the photo dogs."

"I miss them," he joked of the gaggle of photographers with whom Bush always had a friendly relationship. Turning to the writers huddled in the back, many of whom Bush was convinced were in league to see him defeated, he said, "I even miss you—and I never thought I'd say that again."

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