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Law Enforcement Bulletin

United States Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, DC 20535

William H. Webster, Director

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The Cover:

The St. Paul, MN, Police Department developed a pure research project designed to measure the resistance encountered by police officers and the force used to overcome that resistance. See article p. 6.

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Narcotics



Sports Drug Awareness Program

"The FBI and DEA have become partners in a concentrated effort to reduce drug abuse among our school-aged youths."

"SAP" spelled with the addition of a "D" is one way to remember the acronym for the Sports Drug Awareness Program, and to go a step farther, only a "sap" athlete would indulge in drugs with sports.

The FBI/DEA Sports Drug Awareness Program was officially launched by former Attorney General William French Smith in Lexington, KY, on June 27, 1984. Present at the inaugural announcement, among others, were the Director of the FBI, William H. Webster, and then Administrator of DEA, Bud Mullen. The FBI and DEA have become partners in a concentrated effort to reduce drug abuse among our schoolaged youths.

In addition to being a joint undertaking in cooperation between these two agencies, the Sports Drug Awareness Program also has represented on its steering committee a member of other concerned organizations, among them the National High School Athletic Coaches Association, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB).

The National High School Coaches Association has facilitated the outreach to youth in the high schools throughout the Nation. The National Association of Broadcasters has provided significant support through the production of public ROSE ANNE FEDORKO, Ph. D.

Writer

Office of Congressional and Public Affairs Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, DC



Dr. Fedorko

service announcements, which have been made available to radio and TV stations throughout the Nation. In November 1985, the Director of the FBI, William H. Webster, made two public service announcements which the National Association of Broadcasters has distributed nationwide.

Phase I-Student Athletes

The emphasis of the SDAP program is on the role of the coach and the student athlete to prevent drug abuse among youths in kindergarten through college. The goal is to initially reach 48,000 men and women coaches in 20,000 high schools across the country, who can in turn help reach the 5.5 million student athletes. For the most part, the coaches are leaders and key teachers in the schools, who have earned respect and loyalty from their student bodies. With the help and involvement of the coaches, student athletes can be influenced and trained to act as role models. using positive peer pressure to dissuade other students from using drugs.

Shocking Statistics

According to Dr. Lloyd D. Johnston, Program Director of a study at the University of Michigan on youth drug use:

"We do not want to understate the substantial improvement which has been made. Daily marijuana use now is less than half of what it was in 1978 (5 percent versus 11 percent) and the statistics for a number of other drugs are appreciably lower now than they were at their peak levels—including tranquilizers, barbiturates, LSD, PCP, and heroin.

"However, the rates of illicit drug use which exist among American young people today are still troublesomely high and certainly remain higher than in any other industrialized nation in the world. Add to that the fact that the use of one of the most dependence-producing substances known to man—cocaine—is once again increasing and you have grounds for real concern."

Cocaine has been tried by 17 percent of this year's seniors—the highest rate observed so far in the continuing study. "Cocaine use was up in 1985 among virtually all of the subgroups we examined, among both males and females, college-bound and noncollege-bound, rural and urban areas, and all regions of the country except the South," Johnson said. "While this year's increase is not dramatic, it breaks a pattern of stability which has held for the preceding five years."

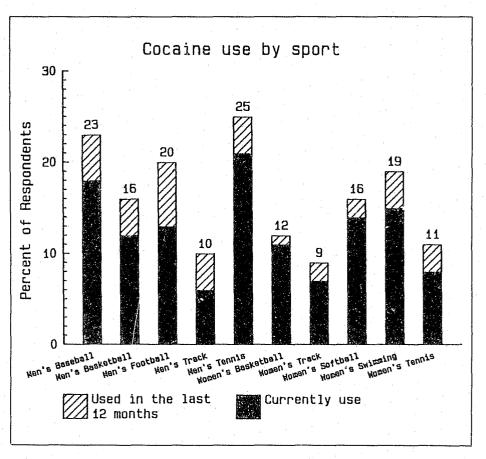
"Fight-Team-Fight" Game Plan

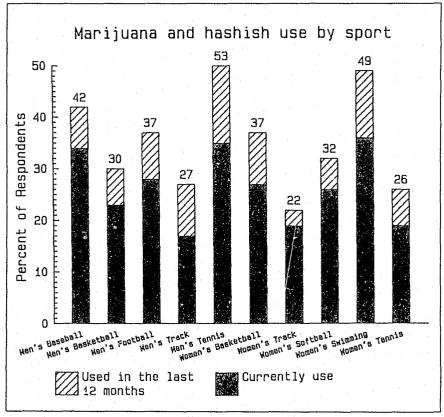
"For Coaches Only: How to Start a Drug Prevention Program"2 is one of the brochures which is being distributed to every coach in the United States. It is a key element in carrying out the program and provides information to coaches on the need for high school prevention programs involving student athletes. This is intended to provide awareness and get the attention of the coaches to the problem. There is also a second booklet of materials containing an action plan and guidelines of how to start a drug abuse prevention program for student athletes. This booklet, "Team Up For Drug Prevention,"3 contains a description of a model high school program in Cincinnati, OH. Finally, 1-hour, 1-day, and 3-day seminars and clinics are offered for coaches in order to assist them in understanding the nature of the youth drug problem and how to take the necessary

steps to develop and implement a program in their high schools. These seminars are staffed by a DEA/FBI team, key players and officials from professional and amateur sports, high school coaches who have successfully put this program into operation, and other representatives from organizations who are participating in the program.

Encouraging Success

The Sport Drug Awareness Program works. School surveys indicate that in the past 2 years, the demand for drugs, as a result of the FBI/DEA Sports Drug Awareness Program, has dramatically decreased among students in schools where programs have been in effect. In one high school in Washington, DC, for example, drug abuse has de-





creased 75 percent among students in the athletic program.

In another, in Cincinnati, drug and alcohol use by senior athletes went from 66 percent to 37 percent. Drug and alcohol use by 8th-grade athletes went down 68 percent.

The Sports Drug Awareness Program began with two pilot programs, one at Spingarn High School in Washington, DC, and the other at the Forest Hills Schools District in Cincinnati, OH. These programs achieved significant accomplishments over the past 2 years. The Spingarn High School program, initiated in 1984, provided training in prevention and peer counseling for 91 student athletes. They became an integral part of the school's Super Team program which stresses achievement in sports and academics as an alternative to drugs.

The Spingarn High School survey indicates:

 Drug abuse decreased 75 percent among the students in the Spingarn High School Atheletic Program;



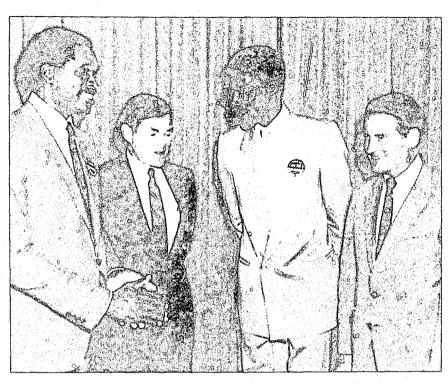
Shap Messing (New York Express)

Left to right: Dave Winfield, (New York Yankees), DEA Administrator Jack Lawn, Julius Erving (Philadelphia 76ers), FBI Director William Webster

- One-third of the students on the athletic team made the honor roll this year;
- A 10th-grade cheerleader, who joined the program last fall, is a 4.0 student. She has also been invited to Cornell University to study this summer with a group of accelerated students; and
- One graduate involved in the program has been accepted at West Point.⁴

At the Forest Hills School District in Cincinnati, surveys of the student athletes showed similar accomplishments:

- Drug and alcohol use by senior athletes during the sport season has been reduced from 66 percent to 37 percent.
- 2) Drug and alcohol use by 8thgrade athletes during the sport season has been reduced from 38 percent to 12 percent.⁵



In these and in other schools, there are numerous other positive signs that athletes attitudes about alcohol and drugs are changing as a result of these programs. Students—athletes and nonathletes alike—are talking about the program and the problem. Some athletes are stating publicly that they are no longer going to use drugs or alcohol. More athletes pride themselves on being absolutely clean in regard to training rules. Most importantly, athletes are telling their coaches that they changed their attitude because of the focus that the coaches are putting on chemical abuse.

Phase II—The Professionals Want To Help

Ralph Sampson. the former University of Virginia star now with the Houston Rockets, showed his willingness to help by participating in the National Law Enforcement Explorers Convention at the University of Washington in Seattle on July 14-19, 1986. The top athlete believes the way to curb drug abuse among school children is through education at an early age. According to FBI Assistant

Director William M. Baker, who spoke with Sampson, "I can't think of a more appropriate manner to reach a drug-vulnerable, school-aged population to alert them to the dangers of drug abuse than through outstanding athlete-heroes such as Sampson." 6

These meetings were particularly significant as the Law Enforcement Exploring Program of the Boy Scouts of America coordinates the activities of some 2,000 Explorer posts with more than 42,000 of the Nation's best young people as members.

Sampson and approximately 30 leading men and women athletes from nearly every sport were involved in a special Drug Awareness award ceremony sponsored by the FBI and DEA at the FBI Building in Washington, DC, on August 14, 1986. Awards were presented to individuals and organizations who had already given their time and service to SDAP. These athletes taped public service announcements for national TV and radio distribution in a con-





Ralph Sampson (Houston Rockets)

centrate 1 effort to influence America's youth against drugs. In his address at the ceremony, Director William H. Webster said of them, "Professional athletes from the entire spectrum of sports are coming forward to declare that they are on the Winning Team. And their message is clear. "'It's okay to be straight, and it's okay to say no to drugs."

During the ceremony to recognize those who helped make the Sports Drug Awareness Program a reality, one of those who received an award was Mr. Ecdie Fritts, President of National Association of Broadcasters. The NAB is represented on the steering committee of the FBI/DEA Sports Drug Awareness Program. They have produced a 1-hour special satellite feed on the program which was sent to virtually every station in the country on September 25, 1986. Included in the feed is the film, "Say No to Drugs-It's Your Decision," featuning New York Yankee Dave Winfield as narrator. The film, produced by DEA and the Winfield Foundation, was presented by Dave Winfield who stated his concern about drug usage among children and

warned the audience that if steps are not taken, we will lose an entire generation.

Let's Take It From There

The FBI has added a "drug awareness" exhibit to its daily tours at FBI Headquarters which conveys messages from First Lady Nancy Reagan, "Trip on Life, not on Drugs," and screen star Brooke Shields in an appeal to parents. Over one-half million people, many of them adolescents, view the exhibit annually and become alerted to facts and figures regarding the four basic types of drugs and the FBI's twofold approach of enforcement and prevention.

But FBI Director William Webster cautions, "For until we rid ourselves of this scourge, we will not be truly free.' The Director further urges the country's athletic leadership "to keep up the good work" in fostering healthy minds and healthy bodies-helping our young people see that "doing drugs is dumb" and giving them strength and the opportunity to choose healthy alternatives-to learn about team work and fair play and indeed

Basketball star Nancy Lieberman with a fan

about freedom which, in the final analysis, is the greatest legacy.

Footnotes

10r. Lloyd D. Johnston, Program Director of Study, "Youth Drug Use Little Improved in Class of 85," University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, Washington, DC

3U.S. Department of Justice. Drug Enforcement Administration. Washington, DC

4Clemmie H. Strayhorn, principal of Spingarn High School, Frank Parks, former vice-principal and athletic director of Spingarn and currently peer counselor coordinator for the DC school system

5Michael Hall, former coach and athletic coordinator for the Forest Hills School District and currently principal of Anderson High School in that district.

Personal communication with FBI Assistant Director William M. Baker