# Girls pick up nasty habit U of I study shows girls chewing more tobacco

#### By Lyle Muller

Gazette Johnson County Bureau

IOWA CITY — For many seventh-grade kids, a pinch of chewing tobacco can make a day just right — and the habit isn't for boys only, a recently published University of Iowa study shows.

As many as 18 percent of the seventhgrade girls surveyed in the U of I study said they chewed tobacco either occasionally or frequently.

Among seventh-grade boys surveyed, 59 percent admitted they enjoyed a chew. Figures for both boys and girls showed a dramatic increase from chewing habits reported five years earlier - good news for the tobacco and coffee can industry but bad news, doctors say, for the youngsters' health.

"The increase in adolescent use coincides with the growth in advertising of smokeless tobacco," explained Samuel Becker, U of I professor of communication studies and one of the study's investigators.

"It coincides with the greater prominence of this product at checkout counters of supermarkets, service stations and convenience stores that we have seen in the past decade," Becker said.

The U of I researchers collected their information by surveying seventh graders in Muscatine in 1985. They then compared their information with data they collected from Muscatine seventh graders in 1980.

They learned that 11.6 percent of the boys surveyed used chewing tobacco frequently

TRIED A CIGARETTE Boys Girls 24% 1980 28% 47% 54% 1985 TRIED CHEWING TOBACCO Boys Girls 1980 18% 2% 18% 1985 59% Source: U of I study of 400 seventh graders at Muscatine in 1980 and 1985. and 47.8 percent used it occasionally in

1985. That compares with only 1.5 percent using it frequently and 16.1 percent using it occasionally in 1980.

Among girls, one-half of 1 percent used chewing tobacco frequently and 17.3 used it occasionally in 1985. In comparison, neither group used chewing tobacco frequently and only 1.5 percent using it occasionally in 1980, the study showed.

The study also indicated that 47.4 percent

of the seventh-grade girls surveyed smoked weekly or occasionally in 1985, compared to 24.5 percent in 1980.

Among seventh-grade boys, 53.7 percent smoked weekly or occasionally in 1985, compared to 29.3 percent in 1980.

The researchers learned there are a variety of reasons young boys use tobacco, but that girls often do it because they are unhappy with parents' or society's rules.

"Unlike boys' tobacco use, girls' SLT (smokeless tobacco) use, and to a lesser extent their smoking, may be a form of rebellion against societal structures," the researchers said in their report, published in the most recent issue of the journal. National Cancer Institute Monographs.

The U of I researchers are conducting studies of the tobacco habits of youngsters in order to find ways to prevent them from smoking. Their research is sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Becker and Dr. Paul Pomrehn, U of I associate professor of preventative medicine and environmental health, are directing the long-term study.

Researchers who wrote the report on smokeless tobacco are Becker, Julie A. Burke and Rebecca Arbogast, of the communication studies department; Michelle Naughton, of the sociology department; and Dr. Ronald M. Lauer, of the department of pediatrics at U of I Hospitals and Clinics.

## **Former banker pleads** guilty of embezzlement

The former president of the now-defunct National Bank of Dyersville, convicted of federal income tax evasion charges in 1985, pleaded guilty Friday in District Court in Cedar U.S. Rapids to two counts of embezzlement.

The embezzlement charges against Dale Luckow, 58, stem from Luckow using \$89,000 of bank money to pay for attorney and accounting fees in his first federal prosecution, Assistant U.S. Attorney Bob Teig said Friday.

Teig said the embezzlement was discovered by auditors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. after Luckow's bank was declared insolvent in 1986.

Luckow has been in the Linn County Jail since July 3 after a U.S. District Court Judge revoked the probation on Luckow's 1985 tax evasion conviction and ordered him to serve a two-year prison sentence.

Luckow now faces an additional

Dale Luckow Banker pleads guilty

prison sentence of up to 10 years and fines of up to \$500,000.

Luckow was convicted in 1985 of income tax evasion for 1977, 1978 and 1979.

At the time of the earlier conviction, Luckow was listed as an officer, not only of the Dyersville Bank, but of the Lisbon Bank & Trust Co. and the Mechanicsville Trust & Savings Bank.

Luckow had been living in Arizona and working for a vending company recently, Teig said.

### **Dems gather to plan** for national showdown

#### By John Kirsch Gazette political writer

The Democratic Party views the U.S. Senate race between incumbent Democrat Tom Harkin and Republican challenger Tom Tauke as a "front-rank showdown," the political director of the Democratic National Committee said Friday.

Paul Tully, who is in Indianola this weekend to participate in a training session for Democratic activists, said a Harkin victory is important because it would help maintain the "momentum of Democratic growth" in the Senate.

Democrats regained control of the Senate in 1986 and now maintain a 55-45 advantage over Republicans.

Tully's assessment of the Harkin-Tauke race mirrors that of Republicans, who have said they will place a high priority on defeating Harkin next year.

Tully dismissed the prospect of a Republican resurgence in the Senate, saying Democrats will remain in the majority because they have the best candidates.

Tauke, who has been a 2nd District representative since 1978, has said he is running for the

Senate partly because he believes Republicans have a better chance of becoming the majority in that chamber than in the House. Democrats have controlled the House since the early 1950s.

The Democratic strategy in the 1990 Senate races will be to downplay idealogical "litmus tests" and put more emphasis on . the mechanics of campaigning,. said Tully.

More than 100 Democratic activists from 13 Midwestern states have gathered at Simpson College in Indianola this weekend to hone their skills in preparation for the 1990 elections. Tully is one of several speakers at the gathering, called the Democratic Training Academy.

The meeting marks the first time that an academy has been held in a non-election year, said Joe Shannahan, a spokesman for the Iowa Democratic Party.

The event is being held in Iowa to give the activists a chance to learn from the Iowa Democratic Party, considered one of the most sophisticated state Democratic parties in the nation.

**Officials ponder options at Prairie Meadows** 

By Rod Boshart Gazette Des Moines Bureau

ALTOONA — After two nights of failing to meet wagering goals, Prairie Meadows President Carole Baumgarten said Friday it's still too early to evaluate how the financially strapped horse track will do in its 82-day fall meet.

She said she hopes to have a better picture of what the future holds by mid-August.

Also, Baumgarten and the track's board of directors are mulling possible uses for the facility to generate revenues during the off-season after Nov. 13, including Christmas parties and concerts. However, she declined to comment on possible options involving wagering activities.

'What we do in the future here is something I think that there are a lot of people looking at and we're talking about things," Baumgarten told a news conference at the start of the first not running, but Baumgarten

weekend since the parimutuel track opened its fall thoroughbred meet on Wednesday.

Baumgarten said she did not know whether an effort would be made to secure more simulcast dates beyond the 10 events annually the Legislature approved earlier this year.

EDWIN SKINNER, an Altoona attorney and a member of the Racing Association of Central Iowa board, said the stately facility would be an attractive place for conventions and meetings. He also said it would be a logical and workable site to simulcast dog races from tracks in Dubuque, Waterloo and Council Bluffs as well.

Earlier this month Sen. George Kinley, D-Des Moines, suggested the Altoona track might want to consider seeking permission to race greyhounds during the offseason months when horses are

ruled out that idea Friday.

L.C. "Bud" Pike of Grundy Center, chairman of the Iowa Racing and Gaming Commission, said any attempt to race dogs at Prairie Meadows would "open a can of worms" because it likely would trigger a fight among communities and between the industries.

Pike noted that other states are considering other legalized forms of wagering, such as betting on sports events and putting slot machines in parimutuel tracks during the off-season but he said "I think people in the state as a whole are kind of tired of any more gambling."

For the time being, Baumgarten said her primary focus is generating enough group sales and interest in the state's only parimutuel horse track to meet the \$300.000 daily wagering handle the facility must average to break even this fall.

Total wagering failed to meet that goal the first two evenings since the track reopened after its ill-fated harness-racing meet, but the track president said she's reserving judgment on prospects for the current racing season.

"This weekend and next weekend together are going to tell us some things and they're both going to be important in the scenario of what we do in the future," she said. "None of us are jumping the gun on this and saying 'two days, OK, let's reevaluate everything.' It's too early to do that.'

Baumgarten, who has trimmed \$1.7 million in operating costs and about 150 jobs since taking over as track president earlier this month, said she has not developed a contingency plan in the event the wagering handle does not meet the goal during prime months of August and September.

#### in deaths from lung cancer

Iowa ranked 37th in U.S.

37th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia in lung cancer deaths, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control says.

The CDC said Thursday that 1,461 people died of lung cancer in Iowa in 1986, representing a rate of 46.2 deaths for each 100,000 people. The 1986 figures are the most recent available, the CDC said.

Alaska had the highest rate, at 70.5 deaths per 100,000, and Utah had the lowest at 24.3.

Nationwide that year, there were 125,511 lung cancer deaths

ATLANTA (AP) — Iowa ranks for a rate of 52.1 per 100,000 people. The Atlanta-based Centers for

Disease Control reported that lung cancer deaths increased 15 percent in the United States between 1979 and 1986. More men than women die of lung cancer — about 74 deaths per 100,000 for men in 1986 and 27 per 100,000 for women.

But the mortality rate from lung cancer among women is soaring compared to the rate for men. Between 1979 and 1986, the lung cancer death rate for women jumped 44 percent, while the rate for men was up just 7 percent.

### Woman dies of traffic injuries

OTTUMWA (AP) - A Bloom in Iowa City. She was injured field woman severely injured in Wednesday in a two-vehicle crash an accident near Ottumwa has died, the Wapello County Sheriff's Department said.

on U.S. 34 a mile east of Ottumwa, the sheriff's office said.

Her car and a van driven by Wanetta Marshall, 18, died Lori Franklin, 26, of Eldon collid-





