

Local teenager gives talk for Mrs. Reagan

By France Griggs
Post staff reporter

United last September by the topic of teenagers and drugs, Walnut Hills High School student Robin [redacted] and first lady Nancy Reagan were together again today at the White House.

And the issue, again, is teens and drugs. Robin, 16, was scheduled to tell her story to a conference of first ladies from foreign countries.

Robin is a graduate of Straight, Inc., a family-oriented treatment program, based in Milford, Ohio, for young drug users.

Robin first met Mrs. Reagan when the first lady visited the program in September and Robin was selected to accompany her as a guide.

Robin's mother, Analiese [redacted] of College Hill, said Mrs. Reagan asked if Robin could go with her to Indianapolis and speak to students at a high school. Robin went.

Mrs. [redacted] said Robin was impressed with the first lady. "She said, 'She's a real lady. Mom, a real lady. She's soft-spoken,'" Mrs. [redacted] said.



Robin [redacted]

Robin flew to Washington Tuesday morning with Jerry Rushing, director of Straight, Inc. Robin was selected as the only youngster to give a presentation today.

"I feel sort of privileged—I was the only person picked and I keep asking myself why," Robin said.

Robin's speech was to focus on what her life was like before she began using drugs, while she used them and after she stopped using them, Mrs. [redacted] said.

Robin used alcohol, marijuana and speed beginning at age 12. Her parents took her to Straight in February 1983. She graduated from the program in March 1984.

Post staff reporter Peter Jensen contributed to this report.