

Youths

call

By Nancy Bertier

Post Staff Reporter

MT. REPOSE, Ohio — First lady Nancy Reagan left some memories in this small Clermont County village Monday night. She undoubtedly took some with her, too.

Some of the 160 young people in the Straight Inc. drug rehabilitation program will remember it as the night Mrs. Reagan hugged them.

Others will remember that she was there when they finally announced they would be "coming home" and ran across a crowded room for tearful embraces with their parents.

And many of them will remember the message delivered by the wife of the president of the United States.

"Life can be so wonderful and so fulfilling and so happy if you can give it a chance," Mrs. Reagan said. "We need you, and we need you badly. You are the ones that are going to be taking over this world ... but we need you clear-eyed and clear-minded. We only make this trip once, I think. Let's make it count."

Mrs. Reagan's visit to Straight Inc. was one of five stops on a two-day tour.

The first lady was vigorously applauded for her participation in the program, was awarded a bronze medal of one child reaching out to another for her work in promoting drug abuse awareness and was serenaded with a song called "Since Straight's Been Here."

Just before leaving the meeting, she walked over to the front row of Straight's young people and hugged each of them. "I love you all," she told them.