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CO-OP CAREER FAIR

Monday, October 6, 1986, the employers listed below will be on campus participating in the Co-op Career Fair. The Career Fair will be held in the Lobby of Zachry Engineering Center. These employers will primarily be interested in hiring co-op students, but if you are interested in either summer or full-time employment, please feel free to come by. The Co-op Career Fair will be held between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm with a lunch break from 11:45 to 12:30.

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Teenage suicide rate decreasing, researcher says

Page 10/The Battalion/Thursday, October 2, 1986

BALTIMORE (AP) — The teenage suicide rate, which tripled be-tween 1950 and 1975 as drug and alcohol abuse among young people also soared, is starting to decline and should decrease gradually over the next five years, a researcher said

"It's not a huge drop-off," said Richard Wetzel, a clinical psycholo-gist at Washington University in St. Louis. "It's still about three times what it was before (in the 1950s) but it looks like it's starting to edge

Wetzel, who spoke at a news briefing sponsored by the American Medical Association and Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, cited a variety of studies by him and others in drawing his conclusions.

He said the current decline in teen-age suicides might be due in part to an equivalent decline among young people in drug and alcohol

"I think that's happening, but that's speculation," he said. Wetzel said studies have shown

that the sharpest rise in teen-age suicides, which occurred between 1965 and about 1979, was paralleled by a dramatic rise in drug abuse among the young. Studies in California also have

found that suicides are more likely in counties with higher levels of drug and alcohol abuse, he said.

A recent study in San Diego of 133 suicide victims under 30 showed that 53 percent of the victims abused drugs or alcohol — which was three times the drug and alcohol abuse rate among the overall population, Wetzel said.

"These were primarily people who started off very young with drug abuse," Wetzel said.

Some of the studies Wetzel exam-

ined refute the widely held view that suicide rates remain constant for a

given population as it ages. The newer studies have convinced Wetzel that external factors can influence a population's suicide rates, he said. Using these new studies, Wetzel has made a mathematical prediction that the rates should go down by a total of about 7 percent over the next five years.

The prediction is based on what's called an auto-regression model, in which statistics from past years are analyzed mathematically to determine future trends.

Mental illnesses - specifically, depression and psychosis — have also been identified as risk factors for

Freshmen enrollment up at colleges in West

NEW YORK (AP) - A comprehensive survey of college trends finds average freshman enrollments surging at Western public universities, but sagging at some New England private schools where tuitions have increased sharply.

From 1980-85, average freshman classes at Western public doctoralgranting four-year universities grew 49.9 percent, according to The Col-lege Board's "Annual Survey of Col-leges, 1986-87," released Wednes-

day.

Nationwide, average freshman enrollments at public four-year universities rose 1.8 percent during the same period, but fell 2 percent at four-year private institutions.

The survey showed that some institutions fared far better than oth-

ers during the first half of the 1980s. Among the weakest were New England four-year private doctoral-granting institutions, where undergraduate enrollments fell 15.8 percent from 1980-85, 12.8 percent in 1984-85 alone. Public colleges in the region gained nearly 5 percent.

'We've been seeing relative price stability in tuitions at public cam-puses. At the same time, the cost of private New England colleges is the highest in the country," said John C. Hoy, president of the New England Board of Higher Education.

The total cost of a year at prestigious, private Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., for example, is \$16,120, and \$15,900 at Boston University. But a year at the University of Massachusetts costs only \$5,552.



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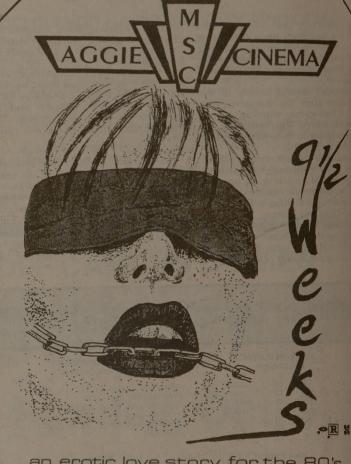
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