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Buylng cigarettes not a hang-up for teens



East High School student Sherr Parker, 16, discussed her eight-year smoking habit after classes on Monday afternoon, noting it has become more difficult to buy cigarettes since there are fewer cigarette machines. She said she still doesn't have a lot of trouble buying smokes, however.

Group hopes to snuff out underage tobacco purchases

By Jessica Lowell
 Writing Intern

CHEYENNE - The lure of the forbidden is a powerful bait.

And all the laws in the world can't prevent a kid bent on buying cigarettes from trying.

Sherr Parker, 16, of Cheyenne, knows a few ways around the system; she's been smoking for half her life, both here and when her family lived in Japan.

She'll borrow a sister's identification, or if she finds a store that doesn't card her she'll go back again and again.

Parker, and other youths like her, are the target of anti-smoking campaigns, as well as federal and state laws aimed at severing kids from nicotine.

They're also the target here of the Wyoming Coalition for Responsible Tobacco Retailing.

That group, made up of retail and wholesale industry groups, is planning a series of workshops in the state in the next two weeks to help merchants train employees to comply with the law that forbids anyone under 18 from buying tobacco.

Justin Jones, a member of the Wyoming Retail Merchants Association, said the seminars were first held two years ago.

In the wake of the classes, the number of tobacco sales to minors dropped. Last year, when no seminars were held, that number spiked, Jones said.

The group's hope by reviving the sessions the number of sales will drop once again. The Cheyenne session will be held from 10 a.m. to noon today at Little America. Walk-ins are welcome, Jones said.

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Judge pre in

LITTLE ROCK, A federal judge found P in contempt of court for giving "intentionally about his relationship with Lewinsky, impudical rebuke on who survived corpeachment just two

Historians said the ton was the first p such a penalty, a lae could also force hir thousands of dollar Jones beyond the 5 to settle her sexu claims.

U.S. District Judge Wright imposed a criminal penalty testimony in the Jones him to pay Mrs. Jones' expenses including fees caused by his vobey this court's dis

The judge also ordered to pay \$1,202 ment for the judge's case, and set in process that could a his Arkansas law lic

"The record den clear and convincing the president respon tiff's questions by gh leading and evasive were designed to obs

Wright said she w enforcement for 30 day ton an opportunity to ling or to appeal. One him to use his legal which has raised \$4.5 the sanction.

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