



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sejal Patel, Program Coordinator
919-661-7800

322 Chapanoke Road, Suite 110
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Toll Free 866-343-SAVE
Tel 919-661-7800
Fax 919-661-7777
www.nationalsave.org

Eastern Alamance Students Against Violence Everywhere Advisor Nationally Recognized for Violence Prevention Efforts

Washington, D.C., February 16, 2004—James Wise of Eastern Alamance High School in Mebane, North Carolina was nationally recognized for his violence prevention efforts through Student Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE). On February 16, 2004 Wise received the Inspiration in Prevention Award from Youth Crime Watch of America and The National Crime Prevention Council.

The Inspiration in Prevention Award honors those who have encouraged and motivated others by their efforts to reduce violence in their schools and/or communities. The award recognizes individuals who have become a vital part of their communities' solutions to the problems of crime, violence, and drugs.

James Wise began a SAVE chapter at Eastern Alamance High School and has served as the chapter's advisor for the past seven years. His chapter has taken an active role in preventing crime and violence in the community as well as in the school. His chapter has performed thousands of service hours and is known nationally as an outstanding SAVE chapter. Wise also initiated a peer mediation program at the school and was the driving force in entering into a partnership with local agencies to create a Low Ropes Course, a team building and leadership opportunity for at-risk youth.

Wise and members of his SAVE chapter will be attending and presenting at the 9th Annual SAVE Summit this year where he will again be recognized for receiving this prestigious award. The Eastern Alamance SAVE chapter will also be conducting a workshop on high school SAVE chapters making connections with middle school SAVE chapters. The workshop will focus on high school chapters partnering with middle school chapters and there will be a special emphasis on working and addressing middle school diversity issues.

The annual SAVE Summit is a rare and much anticipated opportunity for young people to speak with other young people and exchange ideas. SAVE students and advisors learn about the successes of each other's SAVE chapters, receive tips on how to make their chapter more effective, and how to influence

other students at their school to be proactive and join SAVE. This year students, teachers, law enforcement officers, counselors, and community leaders from across the nation will attend the 9th Annual Summit, "SAVE: Lighting the Peaceful Way for 15 Years!" to share ideas and accomplishments and to help celebrate the first 15 years of SAVE. The event will take place on Saturday, March 27, 2004 in Raleigh, NC.

Currently, the National Association of (SAVE) is a student-run, student-initiated violence prevention organization with nearly 1,300 chapters in 42 states with over 109,000 members in elementary, middle, high schools, colleges and communities nationwide. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities.

SAVE has continued to grow nationwide due to support from its national sponsor, Chevrolet, as part of its community service initiative, Chevy **R.O.C.K.** (**R**eaching **O**ut to **C**ommunities & **K**ids). Chevrolet sponsors SAVE on a national level to generate awareness as SAVE continues to expand and spread their message to youth everywhere.

For further information on the Summit or other SAVE activities, please visit **www.nationalsave.org**. Anyone interested in starting a SAVE chapter at their school can contact SAVE at 1-866-343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

###