IOWA TODAY.

By Lytle Mueller

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"It coincides with the greater prominence of this product at checkout counters of supermarkets, service stations and convenience stores that we have seen in the past decade," Segeb said.

The U of I researchers collected their tobacco use data for seventh-grade girls in 1986 and 1985. They interviewed their information with data they collected from Muscatine seventh graders in 1980. They learned that 11.6 percent of the boys surveyed used chewing tobacco frequently and 47.8 percent used it occasionally in 1980. That compared with only 1.5 percent using it frequently and 1.6 percent using it occasionally in 1985.

The study also indicated that 47.4 percent of the seventh-grade girls surveyed smoked weekly or occasionally in 1985. That compared with just 1.5 percent using it frequently and 1.6 percent using it occasionally in 1986.

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