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The University of Dayton

MARY HATWOOD FUTRELL, NEA PRESIDENT,
TO SPEAK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

News Release

DAYTON, Ohio, February 1, 1989--If teachers are to meet the needs of minority students, "they must recognize that all children can learn. Teachers must have high expectations, work with young people, motivate them and inspire them to achieve."

That's the recommendation of Mary Hatwood Futrell, president of the 1.9 million-member National Education Association (NEA) since 1983.

Frequently described as "a teacher's teacher," Futrell will speak at the University of Dayton on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom on campus. Admission is free and open to the public. Her address on "Education, the Teaching Profession and Meeting Minority Needs" is part of the Distinguished Speakers Series and one of several events being held at UD during Black History Month.

As a member of the Select Committee on Education of Black Youth, a group of national black leaders in education, religion and politics, Futrell is working to develop a "national manifesto" to aid minority youth.

One goal of the group is to make sure the teaching profession reflects the minority population, Futrell said. Only 8 percent of today's teachers are minorities, down from 12 percent in the 1960s. By the mid-1990s, minorities will represent only 3 percent of the teaching force. That decline is occurring at a time when minorities make up 35 percent of the student population, she said. "All teachers must be prepared to work with students from different backgrounds," she said.

Futrell's presentation at UD is co-sponsored by the Distinguished Speakers Series, the School of Education and the Office of Minority Student Affairs. For further information, contact Marcia Gantz at (513) 229-4114.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For arrangements for advance interviews with Mary Hatwood Futrell, contact Howard Carroll at (202) 822-7200.

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