

other garbage," Engelking said. Engelking explained the word "chlorofluorocarbons" has a dual meaning. "Chloro" means that a substance has chlorine in it; "fluoro" means it's inert in the lower atmosphere — in other words, it doesn't get eaten up quickly," Engelking said.

"You have to realize chlorofluorocarbons means that a substance is a carbon compound that has chlorine and fluorine in it. So that ranges from very light gases that have one or two carbons in them, all the way to presidential press ware, like teflon," Engelking wryly remarked.

"When you dry-clean things, some of that solvent hasn't been recovered and some of that stuff gets into the atmosphere; when you throw away your refrigerator, 50 years from now it will release chlorofluorocarbons; when you dispose of your egg cartons, 50 years from now your landfill burps and out comes chemicals released into the atmosphere," he said.

Moreover, Engelking maintains there are ways to prevent these chemicals from entering the atmosphere and substitutes can be found for these noxious substances.

#### Cause for concern

Twentieth century man began

**"The ozone above us is protecting us from ultra-violet light — light that normally would turn us into crispy critters"**

— Paul Engelking

Most of these chlorofluorocarbons will never make it into the atmosphere. "It's only the very light guys we have to worry about," Engelking said. These would include chemicals used to make refrigeration units, air conditioners, cleaning solvents and plastic foams (i.e., styrofoam).

According to Engelking, most chlorofluorocarbons enter the atmosphere via disposal.

producing chlorofluorocarbons in earnest during the early 1930s when modern appliances came into vogue. But researching and detecting problems with these chemicals did not come about until the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Since then the scientific community has issued a call to alarm regarding the long-term ramifications chlorofluorocarbons will have on the at-

mosphere and life on this planet.

However, action for restricting their use has been slow. Engelking said that Dupont Chemical Corp. "has all sorts of (alternative) chemicals waiting in the wings," and are poised to put them into production if their hand is forced. Recently, MacDonald's food chain has agreed to stop using chlorofluorinated styrofoam packaging.

Yet voluntary action on the part of major corporations may not be enough. Chlorofluorocarbons are extremely durable. According to Engelking, Chlorofluorocarbons lacking hydrogen atoms have lifetimes ranging from 60 to 400 years.

"Ozone depletion is not just coming from salt spray; it's got to be coming from somewhere else," Engelking asserted. That "somewhere else" points to chemical companies.

"The recent experiments in Antarctica reveal tremendous amounts of chlorine in the atmosphere, and it is the chlorine industry that's causing the ozone to disappear," Engelking said. According to Engelking, if current use and manufacture of chlorofluorocarbons continues it would spell "bad news" for life on earth.

However, good news may be on the horizon. The United States currently is participating in global treaty talks that pro-

mise to curtail chlorofluorocarbon use. At present the agreement calls for nations to cut back usage by 10 percent, with a 50 percent reduction by the 1990s. But to date, none of these "agreements" have been ratified.

"You still want to get levels down lower than that — certainly by the year 2000, because if we release them now, they're going to be there for hundreds

of years," Engelking warned.

Engelking maintained it is unlikely man can arrest ozone depletion through technology. "You could do better by trying to get rich by mining gold out of seawater."

But further cause for hope is the fact ozone can regenerate itself — "if we quit putting chlorine up there," Engelking stated.

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Turn to Cruising, Page 9

## Cruising

Continued from Page 1

should work out perfect if you guys don't litter the parking areas and stay out of the residential areas that are off of West 11th Avenue."

"Maybe we can get the city of Eugene to lighten up on us," the flyer continued. "So come on you guys. Let's move the Gut and make our community better for Friday and Saturday nights."

Mason was parked at Willamette Street and 24th Avenue about 1 a.m. the night the "Gut" officially moved and was startled by what he saw.

"I'm looking at Willamette Street and I can't believe what I'm seeing," he said. It was only

after a police dispatcher informed him that the "Gut" had been moved to West 11th that he understood what had occurred.

Goggins, too, was startled by the move. "They were so well organized," she said.

As for Hedlind, Mason has mixed feelings about his actions.

"I think he's a responsible person. But not enough people listened to him," Mason said.

"They're doing okay but there's still too many throwing cups. I can only do so much," Hedlind said.

"The majority of the cruisers are responsible. The bad bunch of the crowd causes the trou-

ble," he added.

According to Hedlind, over 150 cars currently cruise West 11th Avenue on Friday and Saturday nights. He estimates that each car, on the average, holds three or four passengers.

There has been little negative reaction from business owners along the new "Gut," Hedlind said.

"I've gotten good feedback from the guy who owns the 24-hour gas station. He loves it," The police, he said, "aren't messing with us at all."

McKay, however, has taken matters into his own hands and

### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"OK. The bank's open. ... Now, I know you're scared, Ramone. ... Obviously, we're all a little yellow."



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