

University

OSPIRG urges students to write Congress in support of clean air

By Ann Ziegler
Emerald Contributor

Tuesday's spring weather was ideal for National Clean Air Day, and OSPIRG made sure passersby knew about it.

At their information table outside the EMU, OSPIRG members urged students to write letters in support of a stronger Clean Air Act to be sent to U.S. senators with a bagful of tissues covered with car exhaust.

"We're asking people to write a short note to Sen. Packwood or Sen. Hatfield saying 'keep on supporting the Clean Air Act,'" said one OSPIRG activist.

OSPIRG project leader Tracey Grose rubbed car tail pipes with tissues to send as part of what she called a creative alternative to cards and letters. Students wrote brief letters Tuesday to be mailed to the senators along with the tissues in support of the senators' actions. The bagful of blackened tissues is intended to show the senators what's going out into the air and make them more aware of it, Grose said.

The Clean Air Act, established in 1970, mandates lower standards of pollution control than is necessary today. Grose said the Clean Air Act was to have been revised every seven or eight years, but no changes have been made in almost 20 years.

The bill has three points: industrial toxics, urban smog and acid rain. Controversy surrounding the bill has led to a filibuster in Congress until recently, when Packwood, Hatfield and Senator George Mitchell, D-Maine, moved to invoke cloture, or overturn the filibuster.

Bob Jenks, OSPIRG Campaign Director, said National Clean Air Day was established in Washington, D.C. last September by environmental activists from 18 states who planned to "push the Clean Air Act over the top." It was planned to coincide with House and Senate sessions in late February and serves to stimulate public awareness and action.

Grose has been the project



Photo by Andre Ramirez

Students enjoying the weather this week were greeted by OSPIRG volunteers. The volunteers who collected letters from students, urging Congress to enact tougher clean air laws.

leader for Clean Air Act events since fall term, and she has maintained a full calendar since then.

OSPIRG activists visited a local elementary school and "got the kids to talk about pollution and draw pictures of it," she said. Last week OSPIRG sent the pictures to Hatfield's office.

Last week, OSPIRG also invited University students to "write a poem or draw a picture for your senator."

In addition, OSPIRG collected 150 letters urging Hatfield to support a stronger Clean Air Act.

Last term, Grose and other activists portrayed earth and pollution perpetrators in their performances at the EMU and down Kincaid Street.

"We dressed up as earth, toxic sludge and smokestacks," said Grose. The sludge and smokestacks chased earth around, she said, then stopped and had dialogs including statistics on health effects and inadequate controls of air pollu-

tion and toxic accidents.

Then the toxic avenger stopped them and urged the audience to call their senators and invoke cloture, said Grose.

It may have worked: Guerrilla theater presentations at the University, Portland State and Lewis and Clark have brought in 50 to 60 calls a day to the offices of senators Hatfield and Packwood.

Poor air quality has made a considerable impact on society over the past several years. According to an OSPIRG handout, the federal government estimates 1,500 to 3,000 American die each year from the "routine" emission of toxic chemicals into the air, and that 140,000 Americans now living stand to contract cancer during their lifetimes because of pollution.

The toxins are not only causing respiratory and reproductive health problems, but are also perpetuating the development of acid rain, according to OSPIRG research.

BE TAN FOR SPRING BREAK

Wolff TANNING

\$35
15 Sessions

\$50
25 Sessions

Enhancers
HAIR • TANNING • NAILS

99 W. 10th, 1st Floor Atrium, Downtown
345-3491

NON-STOP SCREENPRINTING

T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS

The highest quality and the lowest price in the Eugene Area.

385 Lawrence
Cambria Sportswear—342-4031

TIPOS
(Now on Campus)

Word Processing

Apple-IBM-Macintosh
(Conversion-Printing-Translation)

Copy Center

344-4510
605 E. 13th • Eugene, Or 97401

YOU CAN TAKE IT WITH YOU.

Army skill training is one of the few things in life that you can take with you. Choose from over 250 different skills and, if you qualify, we'll train you. And once you learn the skill, it's yours for keeps.

It's a valuable asset on your resumé, since many Army skills have significant civilian applications.

And your Army experience can take you a long way toward success, no matter what your future plans are. Besides learning a valuable skill, you'll learn something about yourself: what you can do; how much you can accomplish. You're building the kind of confidence that will help you get an edge on life.

So get started now. See your local Army Recruiter today for details.

SSG Bobby Gilpin, 345-3877

**ARMY.
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.®**

BAMBOO PAVILION
CHINESE RESTAURANT

省時快捷 經濟實惠

Oriental Buffet Lunch
Downstairs
& Try Our Dinner
Upstairs

Hours: Downstairs
M-Th 11:00 - 7:00, F-Sa 11:00 - 4:30
Closed Sundays

Hours: Upstairs
M-Th 4:30 - 10:00
F-Sa 5:00 - 10:30
Closed Sundays

1275 Alder Street • 683-8886

Sale, Sale, Sale

MEN'S SHOES:

LA Gear High Top Air Stream
was \$77.80 Now \$52.80

LA Gear Low Cut Court Air Stream
was \$69.95 Now \$34.95

Avia #455 Men's Aerobics
was \$59.95 Now \$48.95

WOMEN'S SHOES:

LA Gear Street Brat Low
was \$54.95 Now \$36.95

Avia 400 Aerobics
was \$43.95 Now \$35.95

City SWEATS

877 E. 13th
342-6375

Great thinkers-- come check out our Philosophy section. One of the greats-- the University Bookstore. In the Book Dept.