

**Packaging**

Trash. It ends up in landfill, contaminates our groundwater, litters our highways, and when incinerated, pollutes our air with toxic chemicals. The average Oregonian produces about 1,500 pounds of trash per year. That's almost a ton.

I ask myself: "What can I do?" Well, I could start by examining the contents of my garbage can. How much of this stuff can be recycled or reused? The glass applesauce jar can be recycled. I could even use those plastic yogurt containers to store leftovers in the fridge.

Then I ask myself: "But what am I supposed to do with all of this other stuff that can't be recycled or reused?" Well, I could stop buying packages of individually wrapped cheese slices, and I could buy peanut butter in glass jars rather than plastic containers.

As I'm leaving my favorite supermarket, an individual asks me to sign a petition which will put the Oregon Recycling Act on the ballot. I am informed that packaging is the largest type of solid waste. Much of this packaging is used for aesthetic purposes, and is discarded soon after the product is bought. If voted into law, the ORA would require this packaging be reusable, recyclable or made out of recyclable materials.

"Wow, what a great idea! Why hasn't someone thought of this before?" I enthusiastically sign the petition and go home, where I start squashing all those soup cans I've been meaning to recycle.

Steve Methner  
Student

**Stop it**

Rob Jefferson's letter (ODE, April 12) seems to have come at

quite an opportune time. On the front page of the *Emerald* was an article describing the Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network, a movement attempting to bring environmentalists and working people in the timber industry together in a fight to save our social and ecological environment. The fight is not between the environmentalists and workers, but between the people and the fat-cats running the timber industry.

There has been a 25 percent increase in the amount of wood products cut and processed from Oregon lands from 1979 to 1986; contrast that with a 38 percent decrease in the number if Oregon workers needed to cut and process these products in the same time. This is due to automation and raw log exports.

This doesn't sound like the spotted owl taking jobs from Oregon workers, but rather the greed of America's powerful classes abusing the working class. This time, though, there is the added touch of another interest group being involved, the environmentalists. The timber industry uses this to divert the worker's anger from themselves to somebody else, making the environmentalists the scapegoat.

Jefferson feels the old growth issue is a local matter and only local people should have a say in it. These abused lands are national forests; land that is owned by all the people of America, not just timber interests. With only 5 percent of our native forests left, it is high time the American people put a stop to the destruction of our public land.

Brian Margolin  
U.S. citizen

**No respect**

In response to Sen. Bill Bradbury's letter endorsing Sen.

Peg Jolin (ODE, April 18), I do not doubt she is "productive, decisive and dependable." Those are respectable traits in a politician.

However, I lost all respect for her when she publicly stated she thinks "owls belong in frying pans" (*Register-Guard*, April 28, 1989). Misdirecting people's frustrations toward owls was not only irresponsible, but downright reprehensible, considering it was made at a time when owl killings were being reported.

Jolin is elected by logging communities. So her stance on the old growth issue is understandable. But if she (and other politicians) truly "fight for those who elected her," she would concentrate more energy on advocating job retraining, banning log exports, added-value manufacturing (finishing out the product to compete internationally) and better silviculture practices.

In the long run, these reprehensible measures, not cutting down the last of the old growth or blaming owls, will best serve the interests of all Oregon citizens.

Jackie Corday  
Law

**Verses**

In response to Bert Tryba's letter (ODE, April 18), I would like to point out some problems. The so-called "Christians" he describes persecute atheists by making prank phone calls, vandalizing property, harassing co-workers, etc.

Well, in all truth, these people are not Christians. Among hundreds of verses proving this, here is one:

"Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth." (1 John, 3:18)

There are many who appar-

ently judge my Father in heaven by those who merely claim to follow Him. The Bible says "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of my father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

I cannot individually judge these people, but their actions reveal that they are not obeying God's word. Matthew 7:16-18 says "By their fruit you will recognize them." Tryba's point is that since God does not discipline his "children," he obviously does not exist. To this I

say that he disciplines only his true children. Hebrews 12:6 says:

"Because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son."

In an instant the Lord could destroy all existence in its entirety. He is not weak or in-existent. Rather He has chosen to withhold His power for a time. I ask all those desiring to be true children of God to consider this.

Phil de la Motte  
Business

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