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Environmental club cleans local road

HEEL members spent Saturday cleaning up Loder Road for Earth Day

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The environment was cleaned as garbage bags were filled by Clackamas students and members of the Helping Everyone's Environment Live (H.E.E.L.) Club, who cleaned up Loder Road Saturday in honor of Earth Day.

Loder Road is a residential street located off Beaver Creek Rd., south of the college. It was adopted by the club last year so that they could do something to help the environment locally.

"Even though we may think globally about environmental issues, we definitely believe in being active locally," said Ken Eshelman, H.E.E.L. student coordinator.

Eleven students braved the early morning and helped out for many different reasons; some were concerned with the environment while others simply thought it was a good activity to engage in.

"It seemed like a good thing to do on Earth Day and I thought it would be a good experience for my son," said student Kirstin Blair.

"I like being involved however I can, to help out," said Leya Graham, ASG administrative assistant. "I like working with people and this is a great thing."

"It's important whenever possible for people to engage in activities that don't directly benefit them,"

said Paul Crieghton, ASG vice president, of why he helped out.

The road was littered by pop cans, cigarette butts, paper cups and other debris. By the time the clean up was complete, the litter was off the road and into garbage bags that Clackamas County then picked up.

"I think it looked a lot better," said Raechel Van Den Bosch, ASG senator for student access. "It was good to get all the plastic and styrofoam out of there, the things that take a long time to decompose."

The mission of the H.E.E.L. club is to promote student and faculty awareness of environmental issues through hands on activities and community outreach. They participate in three volunteer projects a term.

If you are interested in being involved, meetings are held every Monday from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in Dye 126. Their next service project, a river clean up, will take place on May 20. It is sponsored by the H.E.E.L. club, the Environmental Learning Center (E.L.C.) and Phi Theta Kappa (Clackamas' honor society). For more information about the H.E.E.L. club, contact Ken Eshelman at ext. 2247.



PHOTOS BY DIANA SCRIVNER



James Gould and Kris Barrow work together to pick up the litter on Loder Rd. Many students woke up early to pick up the debris on the road which is adopted by the college. The road is a residential street that is very scenic.

Ken Eshelman, Kris Barrow and Kirsten Blair carry their trash bags up Loder Rd. After cleaning up the street, the bags were left on the side of the road and Clackamas County picked them up.

Science students remember Chernobyl on anniversary

Today, April 26, 2000, marks the 14th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion. Therefore, the ASC-202 (Integrated Science Concepts) students decided it would be important to investigate the issues surrounding this disaster, why it happened and what has been learned since then.

The political climate

The Chernobyl nuclear power facility is located in the town of Pripyat, Ukraine, which is about 75 miles north of the city of Kiev. In April 1986, while performing a safety test, the nuclear engineers were unable to control the heat produced, resulting in a fire and explosion. Thousands of people were immediately exposed to harm-

ful radiation, including workers, their families, and surrounding towns. The effects were felt globally and are not yet resolved.

In the five years prior to the Chernobyl accident, the USSR had experienced a rapid succession of political leaders, contributing to the Chernobyl tragedy through inefficient bureaucracy and secrecy.

The government that had de-

signed and built Chernobyl in the late 70's was spending billions of dollars annually on war efforts in Afghanistan, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Vietnam. According to Lyubov Kovalevskaya, a Ukraine journalist, the nuclear power station was completed with 70-90% defective materials. Kovalevskaya, who as a nurse had the ability to understand the safety inefficiencies involved

with the Chernobyl plant, was not allowed to publish articles that were critical of the plant.

Environmental impact

The environment was extremely affected by the nuclear explosion at Chernobyl. The main cause of contamination and European concern was the plume, the cloud of

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